The Literary Digest

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 28, 1931

TOPICS OF THE DAY

The Hoover Plan to Thaw the Mortgage

HENRY BLAIR IS A FACTORY WORKER.

He has been laid off most of the time for months now, and so the interest on the mortgage on the neat little Blair bungalow has gone unpaid.

John Kelsey, President of the Home Savings Bank which holds the mortgage, does not want to foreclose it, but he has just told Mr. Blair that he may have to do so.

But right at this stage of the story, which is being told by *The Christian Science Monitor*, the new home loan banks are organized, according to President Hoover's recently announced plan.

This gives Mr. Kelsey his opportunity. He may not be able to get Mr. Blair's particular mortgage discounted, but, as the Boston daily imagines the situation, "he has some other mortgages upon which the discount bank will lend him enough money to meet his bank's present needs without having to foreclose on the Blair home and sell it."

At the same time—

"Mr. Blair hears from his Cousin Will that the latter has succeeded in getting the mortgage on his farm renewed after he had almost despaired of it. Behind the scenes the reason is that Banker Brown knows now he can take Cousin Will's mortgage to the discount bank and get money on it if he should need to do so to meet an emergency."

And down the street—

"Ernest Williams, who has a steady job in the post-office, and has been putting his savings into the building and loan association for years, has decided this is the time to build a house. But the building and loan association, with a lot of its money tied up in property, has been putting him off for several months about the loan. Now it can let him have it. And Mr. Blair, who has more than one string to his bow, will get a few days' work as a plasterer's helper."

These are some of the things that are meant, *The Christian Science Monitor* tells us, "when the financiers say the new institution will help the building and loan associations, savings banks, commercial banks, and farm-loan companies to thaw out their frozen assets and to maintain liquidity."

"THE first light on a dark horizon," is the way Harry S. Kissell, President of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, describes the Hoover plan; "this is the greatest thing that has ever happened in the real-estate field, the greatest impetus home owning has ever had." Mr. Kissell says more:

"The lack of such a plan in the financial structure of the country has been one thing that has retarded home owning.

"A family purchases a dwelling, takes on a first and second mortgage for a period of years.

"The picture is perfect in many ways up to the time when one or both of the mortgages run out, and refinancing is needed. Then if times are the least bit bad, and often even when times are very good, the new financing can not be obtained, all that has gone before is wiped out, and the home is lost—often forever.

"Many financing companies have been powerless to meet this problem.

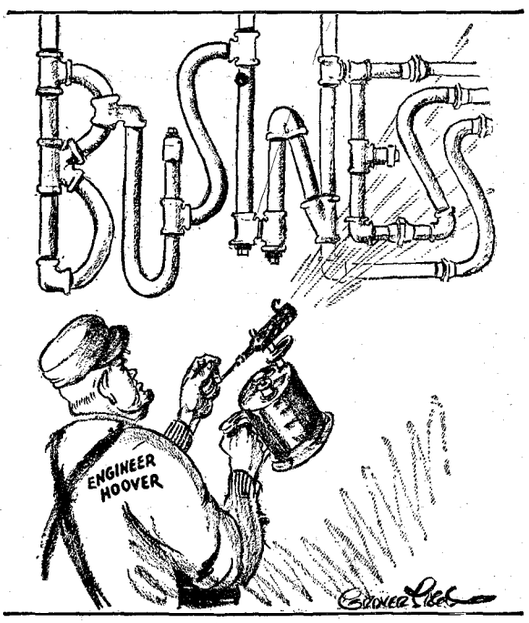
"If they did not have the funds, they could not as much as step across the street to get money on this very good risk—American home owner. With money plentiful in some sections of the country, other sections have been in the position of needing it badly, and many financing institutions literally have been dying of thirst with water all around.

"Thus, what have come to be known as frozen real-estate credits have piled high on their counters, but these credits have been frozen only because of lack of proper financing machinery and not because of any general collapse of underlying values.

"The mortgage bank proposed by Mr. Hoover will permit the easy exchange of residential mortgages between American cities and States so that home financing money can be sent where it is needed. The capital funds of the bank will provide a permanent fund not now in existence for this field, and the bonds of the bank, in quick time, will become a popular American investment.

"The Hoover announcement will bring peace to thousands upon thousands of people who have been greatly agitated about the fate of their real-estate equities. If Congress makes this new system possible, home owning will be enormously stimulated, and many people who never would have undertaken home owning at all will be given the confidence to do so.

"Labor and all allied trades will benefit in the resumption of residential construction which will follow the completion of such a system."



Thawing Out the System

—Page in the Louisville "Courier-Journal."

PRESIDENT HOOVER has a fourfold purpose in suggesting this system of home-loan banks, so he says in his recent statement:

"1. For the present emergency purpose of relieving the financial strains upon sound building and loan associations, savings banks, deposit banks, and farm-loan banks that have been giving credit through the medium of small mortgage loans upon urban and farm properties used for homes. Thereby to relieve pressure upon home and farm owners.

"2. To put the various types of institutions loaning on mortgages in a position to assist in the revival of home construction in many parts of the country and with its resultant increase in employment.

"3. To safeguard against the repetition of such experiences in the future.

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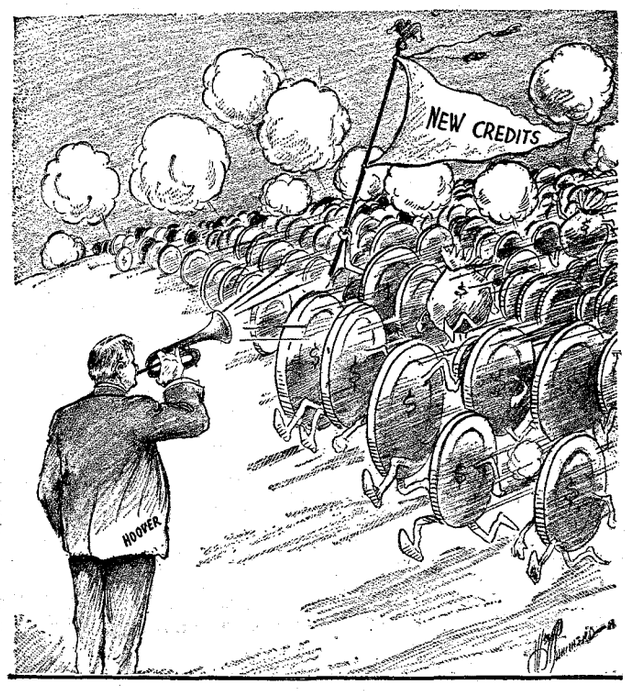
"4. For the long-view purpose of strengthening such institutions in the promotion of home ownership, particularly through the financial strength thus made available to building and loan associations."

The President leaves it to Congress to work out the details of the plan. He does, however, suggest certain machinery simply



Fall In
—Summer in the Cleveland "News."

"to give clarity to the central idea." These details are summarized as follows by *The American Banker:*

"Twelve home-loan discount banks in the twelve Reserve districts, with initial capital of from $5,000,000 to $30,000,000 each, authorized to offer bonds and short-term notes up to twelve times their capital, would be formed, with capitalization furnished by the savings and loan associations, farm-loan banks, deposit and savings banks.

"Capital would be supplied by the Government where private subscriptions were inadequate, but Federal capital would later be withdrawn. Loans would be limited to urban and farm property used for homes, to the extent of 25 per cent. of value of property under unamortized mortgages and 30 per cent. of value under amortized mortgages, the loan not to exceed $15,000. Functioning would be under the direction of a Federal Home Loan Board."

THE plan has been endorsed in principle by members of Congress of both parties and by many bankers and real-estate men.

Thawing out these real-estate loans would seem to be President Hoover's "chief winter sport," remarks the Louisville *Herald Post* in smiling approval. If this plan "can turn a thawing spray of credit over the frozen assets of the mortgage industry, it will merit the warm commendation its announcement already stirs," says the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*. The Boston *News Bureau* feels certain that the idea "will appeal to large elements of the voting population, notably in the West and the South." The Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle* calls it "a tonic for building," and similar editorial commendation comes from all over the country.

This announcement following the President's plan for a national credit association seems to the Washington *Post* and the Kansas City *Star* to disprove most effectively charges that President Hoover has neglected the domestic situation while trying to improve things abroad. As the Missouri daily puts it:

"In all these endeavors President Hoover has demonstrated to the country his intense interest in urgent domestic problems. Altho he has been sharply criticized by political opponents as being 'internationally minded,' he does not deserve this criticism in the sense in which it has been made. He is, in fact, a strong nationalist, especially on the human side. From the time the depression began he has devoted himself with unfaltering zeal to the social problems arising from the change in conditions."

BUT aren't there any critics of this Hoover plan?

There are, indeed. It is very confusing to the Baltimore *Sun*, for instance, "to have the nation's leading rhetorical champion of 'rugged individualism,' and a practical champion so far as unemployment relief is concerned, whooping it up for a Federally fostered and financed system of 'home-loan' discount banks." Two questions occur to the Hartford *Courant:*

"First, is there sufficient basis for his belief that an increase in home building is desirable at present or in the immediate future?

"Second, providing such an increase should prove to be desirable, would the effect of adding some $1,800,000,000 of new credit have a beneficial effect on the country?"

The President's aims are laudable enough, remarks the Chicago *Evening Post*, but it doesn't believe the plan will work. In the first place:

"The cause of the stagnation in building is not lack of funds but a surplus of office and living quarters.

"There is, to be sure, a large group of would-be owners now living in rented homes, but their chief obstacle is the inability to build or buy with construction costs at their present high levels. Expound tho Mr. Hoover may to the contrary, there will be no real revival in dwelling construction until the price of a modest but adequate home declines sharply."

And when it comes to "lightening the burden of frozen mortgages in banking circles," *The Post* feels absolutely certain that "the final operation of the plan would be to transfer the mortgage problem from private owner to the taxpayer and the United States Treasury." Hence comes the conclusion:

"We have expended enough money in grain stabilization speculations in the wheat market. This latest mortgage panacea should be beaten before it has a chance to tap the treasury in a similar manner."

IT is unfortunate, so the Providence *Journal* thinks, that the Hoover plan "places so much stress on the idea that it will give impetus to the building industry, and thereby ease the present business depression." As a matter of fact, contends *The Journal*, "the building industry was a major element in the speculative excesses which provoked the depression in this country." So—

"If President Hoover's plan has as one of its chief objectives the stimulation of home building on the unsound mushroom basis that was so much in evidence prior to the depression, it can not be said to represent sound national policy, much less intelligent financial management.

"Indeed it is one of the very gratifying facts in the midst of the current business depression that conservatively-managed savings banks and similar institutions that handle mortgages on homes are weathering the current crisis admirably.

"Those institutions, on the other hand, which did not follow a cautious and conservative mortgage program naturally have found themselves in hot water. They are among the most enthusiastic supporters of this latest Hoover plan because it would help greatly to minimize their present difficulties. If the main benefits of such a proposal as the President advances were to accrue to the irresponsible and the non-conservative mortgage institutions it would mean not merely a distinctly inflationary process, but a positively dangerous financial undertaking."

Similar machinery has, indeed, worked well in certain European countries, but, concludes the Rhode Island daily—

"For its successful operation here it would require considerably more intelligent direction of building operations and infinitely more restraint in handing out mortgage money than was shown in the years preceding the present depression. Otherwise it might aggravate the very condition that the President proposes to cure."

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What Grandi's Visit Accomplished

BACK TO ITALY goes the olive-skinned, thick-set man of the black beard and pearl-buttoned shoes, whom Mussolini sent overseas for a few hours' talk with President Hoover.

And now the American press is assaying the results of Foreign Minister Grandi's visit.

What did it accomplish?

Very little in a concrete way, we are told by the Washington correspondents. But, then, very little was expected. However, a distinct advance was made, we are assured, along the line of promoting good-will and understanding of each other's problems.

"If there was any accomplishment at all," says Richard V. Oulahan, Washington correspondent of the New York *Times*, "the most that can be said was that hereafter Italy and the United States will be found working with the common purpose of marshaling world opinion in favor of disarmament."

Similarly, most of the correspondents stress the fact that Italy and the United States will work together in an attempt to save the forthcoming arms conference at Geneva from futility.

But one of the Washington writers gives us a somewhat startling version of the conference:

"The American delegation to the coming Geneva disarmament conference will do everything in its power to help end the Franco-Italian naval impasse—to assist the Italians to prevail upon the French to come to a definite solution of the long-open question."

So writes Percy Winner, a former Rome correspondent, in a copyrighted dispatch to the New York *Evening Post*. And "it was clear, from the Italian point of view, at least, that Signor Grandi's visit to the United States is a huge success"—

"Mr. Hoover was told that Italy would warmly support every American initiative at Geneva, if America would show her good faith by supporting the Italian desire to settle the French problem—not necessarily to solve it, along Italian lines, but to solve it in some way or other, since Signor Mussolini thinks any solution more or less compatible with the Italian thesis (that economic recovery is of paramount importance), which, if achieved now, would be better than a huge victory for the Italian case at some later date.

"In short, the men arrived at an informal arrangement on this point. And the Italians who at the Mayflower Hotel learned of the results of the conference after Signor Grandi's return there were 'contentissimi' in every sense."

AND then Mr. Winner gives us this picture of how Mussolini works through his right-hand man, directing every important move:

"Signor Grandi is the tactician, Signor Mussolini the man who works out the plans; Signor Grandi hops from foot to foot, turning and squirming, going and coming, watching the foreigners, and adapting himself to the new conditions in every new place, but Signor Mussolini runs the show in every sense of the word.

"It was Il Duce who spoke at the White House to-day, and it was Il Duce who offered his services to Mr. Hoover's pet hobby—world arms control and reduction—as dear to him as the League of Nations was to Woodrow Wilson.

"In return Mr. Hoover did not promise to sponsor the Italian case at Geneva. He promised in principle to help clear the Franco-Italian naval docket and—this will not be in the communiqués—to use Italy to speak indirectly for the United States on certain world problems other than disarmament."

Coming here with the announced purpose "to assist the peaceful cooperation of all the nations of the world, for a return of the welfare and prosperity of the world," Italy's thirty-six-year-old Foreign Minister must have been imprest by the fact that a considerable number of people were saying harsh things about him and the Italian dictatorship he represents.

So threatening, in fact, were the anti-Fascist elements, that Grandi was almost smuggled ashore to thwart any hostile demonstration. Instead of a Broadway welcome, he found a small group awaiting him on a New Jersey freight-pier, and from the pier he stept aboard a train that carried him to Washington. In the capital, we read, he was so heavily guarded wherever he went that his protectors had difficulty keeping out of one another's way.

Acme

Evidently Glad to Be Here

His Excellency, Dino Grandi, Foreign Minister of Italy, and Signora Grandi.

"We pledge our support," said a statement issued by the Committee for International Anti-Fascist protest, "not to Fascism or Mussolini, but to the heroic masses of Italy who are seeking to overthrow this tyranny. We dedicate ourselves anew to the battle against all manifestations of Fascist repression and injustice in our own and other lands."

BUT "fair-minded Americans were quick to protest the threats of anti-Fascist organizations," notes the Milwaukee *Journal*, and the Birmingham *Age-Herald* says that "one can sympathize with the philosophy of anti-Fascists without approving their tactics."

The American press generally welcomes the Grandi visit, and believes that much good will result from it.

"The authentic and complete information which Signor Grandi has been able to impart," says the Washington *Post* in a typical editorial, "and the clear understanding of America's position which he has obtained, can not but promote international good-will and encourage the spirit of cooperation." And then:

"It is not expected, nor is it desirable, that a special understanding between Italy and the United States should result from Signor Grandi's visit. One of the dangers of personal conferences between leaders of government is the tendency of the public to expect too much.

"Fortunately, Signor Grandi is not required by the Italian people or Parliament to report back a special understanding with the United States.

"If he can give assurances to Premier Mussolini that Italy and the United States have a clearer mutual understanding of the problems that confront the nations, it is all that will be expected—and this he can do."

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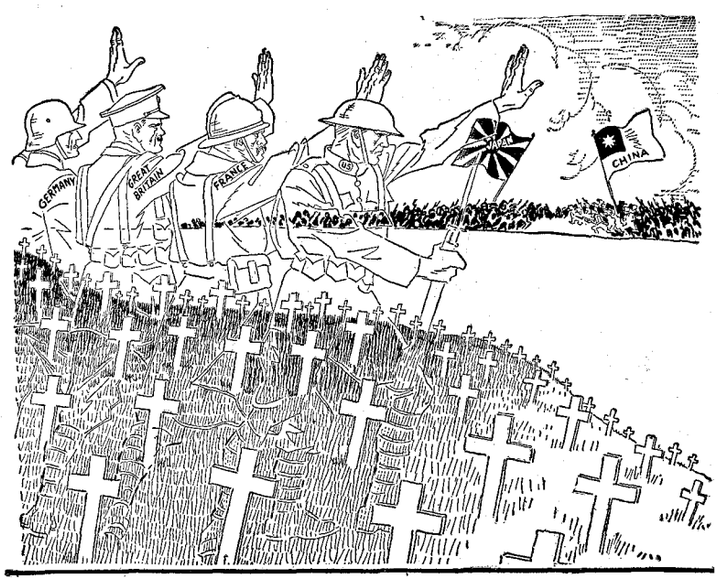
American Sympathies in the Manchurian Clash

"A PLAGUE O' BOTH YOUR HOUSES!"

So, in effect, the more hard-boiled among American editors are crying to Japan and China.

They confess themselves disappointed and disillusioned. They are "fed up" on Manchurian complications.

On October 24 the League of Nations Council issued a virtual ultimatum telling Japan to withdraw her troops to its South Manchuria Railway zone by November 16. On that day the Council reassembled in Paris to face its disconcerting failure.



"Don't! It's Not Worth the Price!"

—Doyle in the Philadelphia "Record."

As the New York *Herald Tribune* cynically expresses it, the Council was "frankly back where it was at the end of September."

On November 18, while the League Council was laboriously seeking information about Japan's treaty rights in Manchuria, Gen. Ma Chan Shan's Chinese forces were being routed in the Nonni River sector, and in desperation he sent a wireless message to President Chiang Kai-Shek in Nanking. According to the United Press, General Ma implored: "Please appeal to the League of Nations to have hostilities stopt."

It must be recorded that few words in defense of Japan's action find their way into American editorial comment, and many in condemnation of it. Despite the admonition of most editors against the dangers of "taking sides," despite the impression in Europe, as reported by the Associated Press, "that the United States was relaxing its stand for Japanese evacuation of the disputed area," and despite the accusation that the American Administration has been victimized by clever Japanese wiles, our press reflects a predominantly pro-Chinese public opinion.

WHILE the conservative press of Paris and London is reported as alining itself whole-heartedly in favor of Tokyo, insisting that China as a Power is non-existent, one section of the American press expresses its resentment of Japanese militarism by denunciations of the League's apparent inability to cope with the Manchurian crisis. A cynical and disillusionized attitude toward the League of Nations Council finds expression in the Chicago *Tribune*, from the pen of its veteran Washington correspondent, Arthur Sears Henning:

"That the fate of the elaborate peace machinery of the world hangs in the balance is admitted under the breath by informed officials in Washington, including members of the foreign diplomatic corps.

"They do not deny that the situation is extremely serious from the view-point not only of the danger of the spread of hostilities in Manchuria but of the future of the League and the Pact of Paris.

"At any rate, it is recognized that the big job, now, is to save the League, if it is not too late. Hence, for the last four or five days the best brains in the chancelleries of Europe have been trying to puzzle out some method for letting the League down easy.

"It appears that the members of the League Council are not considering the application of sanctions, such as the withdrawal of diplomatic representatives from Tokyo.

"They have descended from the dictatorial plane and are now virtually pleading with Japan and China to make mutual concessions, and agree to discuss the points at issue between them, possibly in the presence of umpires appointed by the League.

"Immediate withdrawal of the Japanese troops from the occupied region is no longer being insisted on. But if negotiations between the belligerents can be initiated by the League under any circumstances, its face will be saved, the League strategists believe."

THE New York *World-Telegram*, representing the Scripps-Howard chain of liberal newspapers, foresees a world conflagration unless this "Manchurian fuse" which stretches across Russia and Europe is immediately extinguished by Japan:

"More than Manchuria is at stake in the negotiations of the United States and the League of Nations Council.

"Europe is ready for war. During the coming months peace will depend upon the willingness of nations to operate treaty machinery for treaty revision and settlement of other quarrels. If Japan can break the treaties successfully to-day, Germany and Italy and other nations will be encouraged to use force to-morrow.

"This German spirit of desperate revolt, and similar Italian demands for treaty revision, backed by Mussolini's giant air force, have thrown France and her military satellites of the Little Entente and Poland into a fever of war preparation.

"That is the kind of European war bomb for which Japan unwittingly has lighted the fuse far off in Manchuria. That Manchurian war fuse leads straight across Russia to Poland, Germany, and the rest of Europe.

"That is why the League Council and the United States must continue to insist that Japan put out that fuse before it is too late. If they fail to stop Japan, sooner or later other nations also will take up arms over the disputes which they are pledged to settle peacefully."

ALTHO blamed by the great majority of editors for precipitating a world crisis comparable to that of 1914, Japan is not without defenders. One of these is the Atlanta *Constitution:*

"Japan has shown no disposition to acquire Manchuria by force of arms, simply for the purpose of annexation.

"She can not be censured for demanding the protection of her interests, as guaranteed by treaty, but ignored as the result of China's civil war.

"Through treaties Japan has rights of tremendous value in Manchuria.

"Under these treaties Japan has during the past two decades spent many millions of dollars in the development of the South Manchurian railroads, and the great port city of Dairen, and in modernizing mines and agriculture in the territory adjacent to the railroad.

"With this she was satisfied until the continuous warfare which has been going on in China since the overthrow of the empire threatened all she had accomplished.

"Then and not until then did she strike, and the fighting so far has all occurred around repairs being made by the Japanese of property damaged by Chinese soldiers and bandits."

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Dreiser's Feud With Kentucky

VERBAL BUCKSHOT IS FLYING and razor-edged epithets are flashing in the new but fierce feud that finds Theodore Dreiser fighting it out with the State of Kentucky.

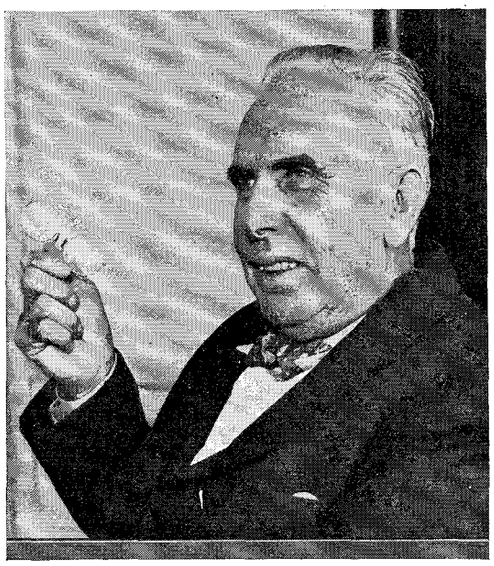
So far, Kentucky, or that part of it directly involved, has "winged" the novelist with two indictments, one on a morality charge and the other for criminal syndicalism.

And Dreiser has scored too.

Using the old verbal pump gun that enabled him to shoot his way to fame and fortune with "An American Tragedy," the sixty-year-old author nicks Kentucky with a cutting denunciation of conditions in the Harlan and Bell County coal-fields. And his counter-shot to the indictments is: "Frame-up!"

Chalking up hits and misses in this long-distance shooting, the press of the country is acting as a sort of referee. To many observers the affair is "An American Comedy." Much of the press comment condemns Dreiser as a publicity seeker, for intruding where he had no business to be. And much of it praises him for a sincere effort to remedy conditions admittedly tragic.

But there is one touch which many editors find delightfully humorous. Dreiser and his committee of writers—the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners—went down from New York, we read, to test the right of free speech in the Kentucky "coal-war" zone, and to investigate conditions among the miners. First, however, they wired Governor Sampson demanding protection and holding him responsible for their safety.



Acme

"Gunman Terror and Thug Rule"

In the Kentucky coal-fields are behind his indictment on two charges, retorts Theodore Dreiser.

And now Pineville, a little mountain town in the coal zone, retorts by preparing to send a committee of the Society for the Protection of Defenseless Children to New York to investigate reports that children are being slain on the streets by gangsters. In a wire to Governor Roosevelt, they demand "full protection of the law."

When the Dreiser committee went to Kentucky to investigate reports of "terrorism" and "blackjack rule" inflicted on striking miners, they found, in Dreiser's words, "conditions as bad as they could be anywhere in the world," with "the usual American line-up of capital and labor, with everything on one side and nothing on the other but two bare hands."

Among the stories heard by the committee, we are told by Gerald Griffin, of the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, were:

"Tales of beatings received at the hands of 'the law,' of being jailed because they had copies of *The Daily Worker*, Communist publication, in their possession; of suffering and want because of the low wage scale, and of near starvation and beggary since their dismissal from their jobs, of threats and of murder."

ON the other hand, Sheriff Blair of Harlan County told the committee that leaders of the National Miners' Union, alleged to be a branch of the Communist party, were responsible for stirring up trouble. "There's not any strike here that I know of," the Sheriff said, as quoted by Mr. Griffin. "The people in this county are getting along very well, and all are working except a very few."

The first indictment against Dreiser, charging misconduct with a young woman, was returned on the day he left Pineville, and after Circuit Judge D. C. Jones had severely criticized the committee to the grand jury. Says the Associated Press:

"Judge Jones told the grand jury the committee came into the coal-fields seeking publicity and to write books in order to 'capitalize on the poor miners' and to 'dupe them into joining some Communistic organization'."

The misconduct charge Mr. Dreiser denied, only to hear a few days later that he had been indicted for criminal syndicalism—seeking to overthrow the Government of the United States and of Kentucky. With him were indicted John Dos Passos, Charles Rumford Walker, his wife, Adelaide, Marie Pergain, Sam Ornitz, Celia Kuhn, George Maurer, and M. P. Levy. The penalty in Kentucky for criminal syndicalism is from one to twenty-one years.

Announcing in New York that they would fight extradition, the committee declared that the indictment "proves conclusively that the charges that the committee went into Kentucky to investigate are true." Furthermore, it charged that Judge Jones "used his office throughout the strike in the interest of the coal operators and against the miners."

"The indictment," said the committee, "proves that even the act of hearing the story of the miners, of visiting their poverty-stricken houses, of inquiring about their Chinese coolie wages, their starvation diet, and the slavery of their working conditions is regarded as a criminal offense in the eyes of Judge Jones, Prosecutor W. A. Brock, and the grand jury."

"BUT it is the radical, un-American views as preached by Dreiser and his motley followers that have caused conditions in these hills to reach the breaking point," declares the Harlan *Enterprise*, in Kentucky. "Now for another Scopes trial and all the attendant monkey business," says the Pineville *Sun*, and the Middlesboro (Ky.) *Daily News*, fearing such a spectacle, thinks "it would be much better for everybody concerned if these people were never brought back to our county." And "our advice is to keep Theodore and his crowd out. We are sick of his philosophies and investigations. These head-line seekers are anathema to the people of Bell County."

"In their present plight," says the Paducah (Ky.) *Sun Democrat*; "the Kentucky coal-fields would probably prefer Mr. Dreiser's check to his presence."

As another Kentucky daily, the Lexington *Herald*, sees it, "the situation calls for the mediation of a Louis D. Brandeis, not the partizanship of a Theodore Dreiser."

But "Dreiser is not on trial," declares the Camden *Courier-Post*. "Kentucky is on trial. It is on trial before the unofficial court of humanity, decency, and honor." To the Baltimore *Sun* "it is fairly clear that the motive behind the action taken is to strike back at reporters and investigators who were too well known to be gagged by threats or to be beaten or shot."

Some papers believe that Congress should investigate the coal-field conditions to get the facts. "The situation," asserts the Macon *Telegraph*, "is now a national scandal, and must be handled as such."

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The Ritchie Presidential Bee's Trial Flight

A RUNNING-JUMP LANDS the tall and handsome Albert C. Ritchie in the middle of the political arena.

Unleashing a series of speeches in Eastern States, including addresses at New York, Boston, and Pittsburgh, Maryland's pink-cheeked, gray-haired Governor instantly focuses the attention of political observers everywhere.

What is he up to? What lies behind this sudden oratorical activity? What is the real significance of his New York conference with Alfred E. Smith and John J. Raskob?

The answer, as hinted rather than definitely stated, is that Ritchie is being advanced by a section of the Democratic party to "stop" New York's Governor, Franklin D. Roosevelt, now conceded to be "out in front" in the race for the Presidential nomination.

Immediately the simmering political pot begins to bubble:

"The Democrats will win in 1932 with Roosevelt, or they won't win," declares Senator Wheeler, Democrat, Montana, who sees the utility interests lining up against the New York Governor. Furthermore:

"If the Democratic party does not listen to the voice of the people and nominate Roosevelt or some other liberal, a third party will spring up inevitably in the next campaign."

International

Will He Stop Roosevelt?

Gov. Albert C. Ritchie, of Maryland, who is being groomed, it is said, to head off New York's Gov. Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Democratic Presidential nomination race.

And with that threat of a bolt, noted by G. Gould Lincoln of the Washington *Evening Star*, comes a report that James W. Gerard, former Ambassador to Germany and now treasurer of the Democratic National Committee, is organizing a committee to work for harmony within the party. Every effort will be made, it is said, to avoid a repetition of the Smith-McAdoo "brawl" in Madison Square Garden in 1924.

Thus the increasing crackle of musketry presages the thunderous battle of 1932.

TURNING for a moment to the recent Ritchie speeches, the Associated Press tells us that in Boston he vigorously criticized the "Republican party's failure to meet the trouble of the day with a constructive program;" in New York, he asserted that the American taxpayer should not be asked to shoulder the extra burden of cancelation of war debts on altruistic grounds alone. Yet he believed the taxpayer would cheerfully assume the burden if assured that such action "would cure the ills of the world and promote his own ultimate welfare." He told the correspondents that Prohibition and unemployment will be the two great national issues in 1932, and declared that repeal is the only real solution of Prohibition.

"As the Ritchie-Roosevelt situation is viewed in political circles in New York," writes H. K. Fleming of the Baltimore *Sun*, in Governor Ritchie's State, "these facts stand out":

"The powerful financial interests in the East fear Governor Roosevelt's progressivism. Between Roosevelt and Ritchie, they would prefer Ritchie.

"Smith and Raskob are definitely dubious about Roosevelt.

"Tammany Hall does not want Roosevelt, and probably would prefer Ritchie.

"However, politicians concede that Roosevelt will get the New York delegation in the 1932 convention unless the local political situation changes materially by next spring, but they also point out that if a third of the convention remains adamant in blocking the Roosevelt nomination, the New York delegates then will swing their votes elsewhere. Just where is a question that remains unanswered."

"If Ritchie fails to develop the required strength, an attempt probably will be made to throw the anti-Roosevelt support to Newton D. Baker of Ohio," writes Paul Y. Anderson, Washington correspondent of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*. And he proceeds to throw more light on the situation:

"Informed opinion here supports Senator Wheeler's opinion that the conservative wing of the Democratic party is now using Ritchie in an attempt to kill off Governor Roosevelt's boom.

"The belief is that a serious crimp could be put in the New York Governor's chances if he could be deprived of the New York delegation.

"John F. Curry, leader of Tammany Hall, visited Washington this week, and conferred with Senator Pat Harrison (Dem.), Mississippi, and Senator Key Pittman (Dem.), Nevada, apparently in an effort to check Roosevelt's growing strength.

"The anti-Roosevelt movement derives support from two powerful sources. The electric-power interests are alarmed over his proposal to develop publicly-owned power plants on the St. Lawrence River, and Tammany resents his action in appointing Judge Samuel Seabury to investigate evidences of graft in New York City."

"ACTUALLY, the anti-Roosevelt forces have little hope," according to Elliott Thurston, Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Record:*

"They are discouraged by the impetus behind the Roosevelt boom, and see only the remotest chance now of stopping him. Nevertheless, they are bent on making the fight with Ritchie as the only available rival at hand now that Owen Young has flatly taken himself out of the picture and Newton Baker is reluctant to get into the Ohio primary.

"That leaves only Ritchie cut to the dripping wet, private-power operation, and other patterns of the influential, wealthy coterie of Eastern Democrats who are out to beat Roosevelt because they think him too liberal on economics, especially on the power question, and too quiescent on Prohibition, tho he has flatly declared for repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment."

So far, of course, neither Mr. Roosevelt nor Mr. Ritchie has formally tossed his hat into the ring. And after he conferred with Mr. Smith, to whose candidacy he deferred in the 1928 convention, and with Mr. Raskob, party chairman, Mr. Ritchie even had a good word for both Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Baker.

"Of course," said Maryland's four-time Governor, as quoted in the New York *Times*, "I am pleased to be mentioned in connection with a nomination for President. Who would not be?"

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A New Pacific Rail "Spark-Plug"

MEN SWINGING SLEDGE-HAMMERS drive a spike into a railroad-tie in a lonely little "cow town" in California.

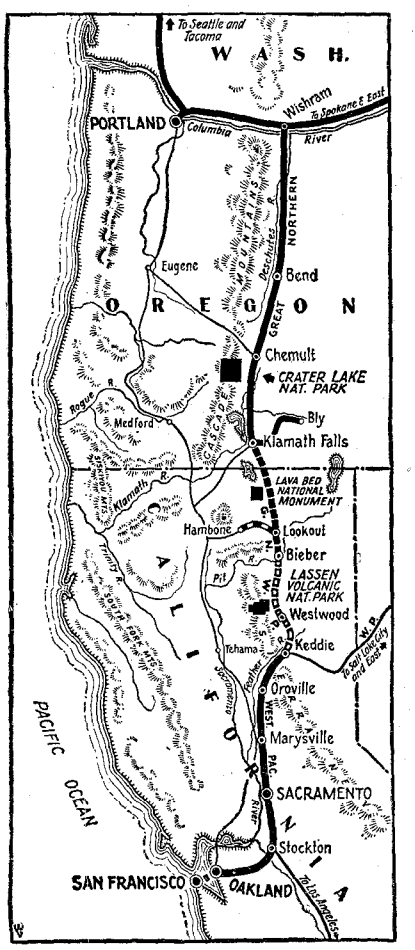
And applause rings out all over the Pacific slope and the American Northwest.

For this is a golden spike, and the blows that drive it home open a new chapter in railroad history.

Rail officials from all parts of the United States mingle with the silent, picturesquely clad Pit Indians as Bieber, the scene of the ceremony, celebrates the completion of a 203-mile link joining the Great Northern and Western Pacific railroads—a new through competitive Pacific coast rail route traversing California, Oregon, and Washington. One editor calls the new link a "spark-plug," vitalizing a huge rail machine.

A poll by wire of the leading coast papers brings interesting comment. This "seals the last frontier of America and realizes the dream of James J. Hill, the empire builder," notes the United Press, and the Sacramento *Bee* tells us that the "local territory" which the new line opens "comprises an area as long as the State of Ohio and as wide as the State of Connecticut, some 400,000 acres in extent, which will become available for extensive agricultural development. It is also an area of millions of feet of virgin lumber."

New markets will open and other commercial advantages result from this new rail link, editors agree, pointing out also that when passenger service is inaugurated, next May, a new "paradise for tourists" will be at hand. But, altho "California and the interior of the Pacific Northwest have been brought closer by many hours," the Walla Walla (Wash.) *Daily Bulletin* believes that even more important—



New Ties That Bind

East and West—showing the 203-mile rail link between Klamath Falls, Oregon, and Keddie, California, recently opened by the Great Northern and the Western Pacific systems.

"Is the display of faith in our nation's future shown by this construction during times of economic retrenchment everywhere.

"More than anything started in recent years this railroad symbolizes faith of the nation's keenest financiers in the future of the United States and, particularly, the Pacific slope."

"So far as San Francisco is concerned," points out the San Francisco *Chronicle*, "the 203 miles of new rail line opened between Keddie, California, and Klamath Falls, Oregon, make a spark-plug set which vitalizes a huge machine comprising 13,000 miles of railway"—

"Up to the present time, the great gridiron of rails over seven States, tapping as many more and extending into Canada, has been something remote from San Francisco. Yet only 203 miles of new road was necessary to bring it into this city.

"From now on, San Francisco will be the western terminus of the Great Northern system. The eastern terminus is Chicago, which it enters over the Burlington, owned jointly by the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific."

"THE dawn of a new era in business and industrial development" is seen by the Salt Lake *Tribune*, and the Portland *Oregonian* finds the new line's significance already demonstrated "in long train-loads of Oregon products" awaiting transportation.

"The extension will become a strong factor in the future development of the State," asserts the Sacramento *Union*, and another California paper, the Stockton *Record*, tells us that "the entry of the Great Northern is recognized with rejoicing as another factor to aid in the development of the West."

Acme

Driving the Golden Spike

Arthur Curtiss James, reputedly the largest holder of railroad securities in the world, gives the final tap to the $15,000,000 rail link in ceremonies at Bieber, California.

Other papers agree with the Walla Walla *Daily Bulletin* that the project is completed at a particularly opportune time.

"The enterprise proves that the railroads have not lost the vigor necessary to improve and to expand in spite of the unfavorable economic conditions and the handicaps of governmental control and regulation," remarks the Seattle *Times*, and the Eugene (Ore.) *Register* adds:

"Completion of the new California line at this time is a token that we have not exhausted the vision and courage which opened the empire of America."

To Eastern tourists, the new line also has significance, as a correspondent of *The Christian Science Monitor* explains:

"In a passenger sense, the new railroad is expected to increase travel substantially as a result of reduced rates already made effective, whereby passengers may visit both the Northwest and California for the basic round-trip fare from eastern points without paying the $18 differential heretofore existent."

This rail line, built in fifteen months at a cost of $15,000,000, is due in great part, we read, to the efforts of President Ralph Budd of the Great Northern, who carried on the fight which James J. Hill had lost to E. H. Harriman, master builder of the Union Pacific, Central Pacific, and Southern Pacific lines.

"The last obstacle was swept aside," says the United Press, "at a long and hotly contested battle before the Interstate Commerce Commission, when the Great Northern-Western Pacific combine won a permit, in June, 1930, to construct the extension. It brought into competition practically the whole of the Pacific coast from Mexico to Canada. The Southern Pacific, already entrenched in the territory, was the principal opponent of the project."

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TOPICS IN BRIEF

WHY not take the depression for a ride? —*Boston Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

JAPAN is apparently for peace, if it's a big piece of Manchuria.—*Weston (Ore.) Leader.*

AN even greater mystery than who won the war is what were the winnings. —*Arkansas Gazette.*

ONE trouble with the rising generation is that it doesn't rise early enough. —*Thomaston (Ga.) Times.*

WHAT we need most in this country is some one who can take the ail out of railroads.—*Hubbard (Ore.) Enterprise.*

GANGSTERS do not believe in sparing the rod. — *Greensboro (Ga.) Herald-Journal.*

RUSSIA'S system of industrial slavery creates the impression that her ship of state is a serf boat.—*Weston Leader.*

IF the nursing they need is any index, practically all industries are infant industries nowadays.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

MANY corporations are now "getting into the black," but are not in mourning.—*Boston Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

"Go after business" has the sound of a good slogan until you remember where business has gone.—*Publishers Syndicate.*

A CONSERVATIVE is one who wants the rules enforced so nobody can take his pile the way he got it.—*Beaumont Journal.*

WHAT and not when they can get out of Manchuria is evidently the chief concern of Japanese militarists.—*Weston Leader.*

WAITING for a new model that may be out any minute is about all that keeps us from being sold on an Einstein theory.—*Detroit News.*

STATISTICIANS inform us that one American in five knows how to drive a car, but don't explain why she prefers the back seat.—*Everett Herald.*

A WRITER prophesies that underground houses will come soon. Then we shall probably see New York going in for hell-scrapers.—*Passing Show (London).*

IF Chicago handles its financial problem as it did Capone, school-teachers will have to get their pay from Federal taxation.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.*

PERHAPS the old adage, "Two can live as cheaply as one," means that father and mother can live as cheaply as daughter.—*Christian Science Monitor.*

HAVING renounced war, Japan and China must be gratified to learn they can do all the fighting they want to without having any war.—*San Diego Union.*

WE don't know what Gene Tunney's new book will contain, but whatever it is, Mr. Dreiser will never be impelled to slap him about it.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

ALFALFA BILL MURRAY stood on his head to prove he is an acrobat. However, there's a much better act over in Louisiana, where the governor can pose as a male quartet.—*Detroit News.*

EUROPE'S idea seems to be that we'd lose interest in her if we got our capital back.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

WHEN Congress begins to consider the deficit, it will naturally resolve itself into the committee of the hole.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.*

THE old story about the wolf at the door has been revised. He's inside and the family is sitting on park benches.—*Tampa Tribune.*

TROUBLE with America is that when she went for a wild ride she forgot to take along her mad money.—*Dunbar's Weekly (Phoenix).*

THE explanation of Cleveland's municipal overturn seems to be that somebody managed the city manager.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.*

PEOPLE who take cold baths in the winter, says a specialist, never have rheumatism. But then they have cold baths!—*Passing Show.*

JAPAN and China can't expect Uncle Sam to bear the expenses of their war until after he is through paying European nations for theirs.—*Toledo Blade.*

WE are living in a world of change, says an eminent professor. Yep, but the trouble is that it's so darned hard to get your hands on any of it.—*Boston Herald.*

HOME building may be all right, but if President Hoover would please Republican candidates he will show them how to rebuild fences.—*Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.*

"I AM not interested in money," said Henry Ford, and, altho it has nothing to do with it, we'd sort of like to remark that little Willie, after he'd had three generous helpings, seemed not to have much interest in the pudding for the time being, either.—*Boston Herald.*

OPTIMISTIC reports are that prosperity is beginning to play a peek-a-boo with us from around that corner. — *Arkansas Gazette.*

"Do Fish Ever Sleep?" asks a scientific article. Well they ought to with all the free river, lake, and ocean beds.—*B'nai B'rith Messenger.*

AFTER reading all those British mystery stories, featuring clever detective technique, it's a bit disillusioning to learn that Scotland Yard has been unable as yet to round up a gang which has been stealing mantelpieces.—*Boston Herald.*

ANOTHER year or so of this Republican prosperity and nude colonies will be no novelty.—*Fort Myers (Fla.) News-Press.*

WE'RE going to have a very pleasant winter indeed if the wind is to be tempered to all the shorn lambs.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

NOAH'S flood, according to excavators in Mesopotamia, was just a local drizzle. But what a press-agent it must have had!—*B'nai B'rith Messenger.*

"MA Has Final Word in Bridge Controversy," says a head-line over a Manchurian item. Well, it's not so different over there as we supposed.—*Boston Herald.*

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Defying the Laws of Gravitation
—Hanny in the Philadelphia "Inquirer."

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The Wildfire Spread of German Fascism

A LEADER WITHOUT A COUNTRY, Adolf Hitler, commander of the Nazis or German Fascists, yet not himself a German, has all Germany sitting up and taking notice anxiously.

This nervous little man with the Charlie Chaplin mustache, familiar as a volcanic orator and a master showman of military parades, now looms as the most formidable foe of Chancellor Bruening in his efforts to reconcile Germany's paying ability with the demands of the Young plan.

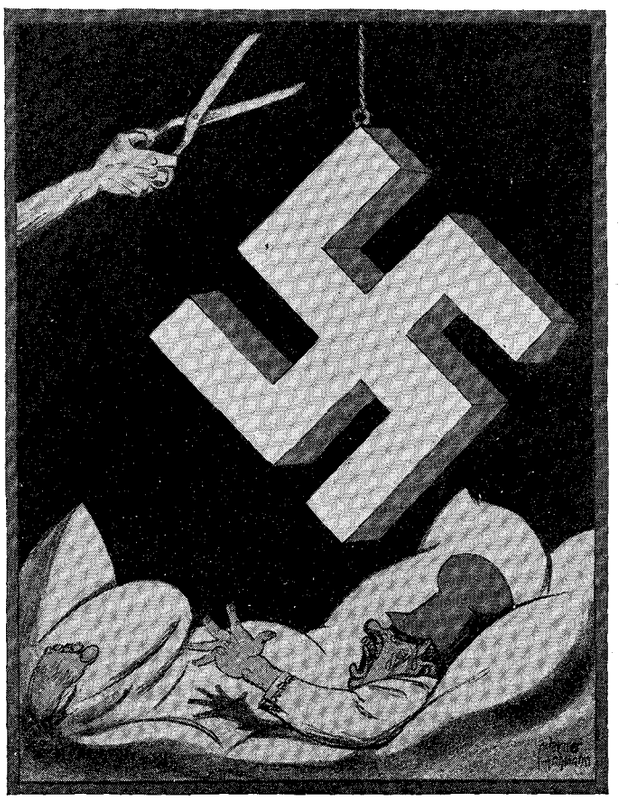
The Hitlerites would have Germany tear up the Versailles Treaty, and repudiate the reparations, hence the uneasiness that disturbs Europe as they rise toward power.

On November 15, the Nazis ran away with the elections to the Hessian Diet, and definitely disrupted the Weimar coalition of Socialists, Centrists, and Democrats which has been uninterruptedly in office there since 1919.

Chancellor Bruening himself spoke in the Hessian campaign for the new Diet. Hitler and various leaders of the Nationalist Opposition also harangued the voters.

The Nazis, German press cables inform us, conducted their campaign by air, dropping propaganda from planes and sending up balloons decorated with Fascist emblems.

No disorders were reported except at Versheim, where a policeman was stabbed to death, and his assailant was shot down by a fellow constable.



Germany's Nazi Nightmare
—"Kladderadatsch" (Berlin).

By Germany at large, press cables advise us, the Hessian elections are regarded as a test of strength between the Government of Chancellor Bruening and the Nationalist Opposition. In both the cities and the rural communities of Hesse, the Hitlerites obtained twice and in some cases three times as many votes as they did in the 1930 national elections, when 107 Nazis were elected to the Reichstag.

LEADER HITLER himself can not be elected a deputy, unless German citizenship is accorded to him. He was born in Austria in 1889, and lost citizenship of that country when he served as a volunteer with the German Army during the World War.

Since 1930, the Nazis have made advance after advance in State and municipal elections until the sensational vote for them in Hesse, which is said to have given German official circles a fresh attack of "the creeps." To-day Hitler can boastfully declare in his personal organ, *Angriff*, that "the irresistible march of the times has far surpassed the recent gains" of National Socialism, and can tell Chancellor Bruening that "if the Center wants to continue to rule against awakening Germany, it must associate with Communism."

Further cabled editorials to THE LITERARY DIGEST include this tart Communist verdict from the *Welt Am Abend:*

"The bourgeois parties are streaming to Hitlerism. Capitalism is retreating from the vantage-point of this camouflage.

"Undoubtedly the masses of peasants and small employees embracing the Nazis hope to protect their small interests. Their awakening will be fearful.

"The Nazis undoubtedly are already dominated by large industrialists. The thousands awaiting the salvation of the third Reich will find themselves only prisoners in the Army. Class-conscious workers are aware of this—the voters who deserted Socialism went to the Left, not to the Right. The elections demonstrated the imperative necessity of the workers uniting."

To the Berlin democratic *Tageblatt*, the Nazi triumph in Hesse means:

"It is more clear than ever now that the parties are welded into four smaller groups: The National Socialists, the Social Democrats, the Centrists, and the Communists.

"As elsewhere, the Hessian Nazis won only a large number of former non-voters and newly enfranchised and weakening moderate parties. Considering this, the Nazis's gains lose somewhat of their importance."

The Democratic *Boersen Courier* recognizes that "what a few months ago was absolutely impossible is now capable of discussion—namely, the possible ability of the National Socialists to rule." This financial organ continues:

"We believe they could be included in the Government on certain conditions. We must clearly recognize their position. Next week will bring decisions on the reparations and other points on which hangs the fate of Germany. Therefore the National Socialists must now assume their share of responsibility for the impending decisions."

The official Socialist-Democratic newspaper, the Berlin *Vorwaerts*, sees the situation thus:

"Whether to allow the Nazis to participate in the Government is a question not of their rights but of political expediency. The Opposition party, which grows like a mushroom in the rain, shrinks just as quickly in the sunlight of the Administration.

"If the Nazis had had only one-tenth of the responsibilities of the Social Democrats in the last thirteen years, probably no trace of them would remain to-day. No wonder the thought occurs to test the theory of diminishing the usefulness of the Nazis."

A NATIONALIST newspaper, the Berlin *Kreuz Zeitung*, is convinced that "the Hessian stronghold of the Weimar Coalition has exprest its unmistakable repudiation of the present course" of the German Government. So, it adds, "the only alternative of the Centrists is a coalition of the Right or new elections at the risk of further National-Socialist gains."

Chancellor Bruening's organ, *Germania*, leaves the decision to the judgment of the Centrist leaders in the new Hessian Diet, and it prints a statement by the Hessian Centrist chief, Hoffman,

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which concludes significantly: "The initiative for the forthcoming Diet organization must come from the largest parties."

SHOULD the Bruening Government fall—pious hope of the Nazis—they claim that it is the right of their National Socialist organization to set the course for the German ship of State. Gregor Strasser, Nazi spellbinder and member of the Reichstag, is reported in a Berlin cable to the New York *Times* as declaring at a Nazi mass-meeting that when a really National Government gains power in Germany, "the first task will be to settle accounts with the Marxists (he meant the Social Democrats) and then with the Bolshevists (the German Communists)—a National Government can not tolerate people whose attention is focused, not on Germany, but on Moscow.

Courtesy of the Press Cliche

She Keeps Smiling

Altho the men and women farm workers of Soviet Russia are said to have a lot of trouble with farm machinery, the intelligent use and proper care of which "it has taken the American farmer three generations to learn."

"The coalition with the old-style Nationalists, consummated at the Harzburg meeting, Strasser said, left the independence of the Nazi party unimpaired. Their program Strasser defined oracularly as 'Power, Bread, Work.' In executing this program the National Socialists would not expropriate private property, he said; on the contrary, the 'National Socialist State' recognizes the necessity of utilizing the energy of private business enterprise. 'But in the National Socialist State private enterprise acquires a much greater responsibility than it has now; private enterprise becomes subordinate to the State, and the welfare of the citizen becomes superior to the profit drive.'"

BUT some press correspondents in Berlin point out that while the sweeping Fascist success in the Hessian elections makes the Nazis the strongest party in Hesse, it yet leaves them without a majority, either alone or by a coalition in the Hessian Diet. One such informant, Frederick Oechsner, cables from Berlin to the New York *Sun* that this condition is "characteristic of their plight in several of the German States, and minimizes any real threat of their wholesale assumption of power." He goes on:

"The Nazi leaders to-day regard the results in Hesse as opening the door to control of Prussia in next May's elections, but political observers here consider their prediction as concerning an event a little too far ahead to have their hopes based on anything very tangible.

"Even a 100 per cent. gain in votes, as was registered in Hesse, would not give Adolf Hitler's followers a majority in Prussia.

"It is important to note in regard to the future political scene in Germany that the Fascists have been extracting their greatest gains from those parties which would normally be their allies in case of a coalition.

"Thus tho they have increased in individual strength as a party they have not seriously weakened the Opposition. The Communists and Centrists, for example, always register gains when the Fascists do, tho these are not as large.

"The Centrist increases may be attributed to Chancellor Bruening's prestige and satisfaction with his policies, while the Communist gains have been drawn from Socialist adherents who are displeased with the party's concessions to Bruening."

As the Hessian elections are viewed beyond the borders of Germany, cabled editorials to THE LITERARY DIGEST from Paris show the semiofficial *Temps* in this mood:

"The Hitlerite wave continues to sweep Germany under conditions singularly disquieting, while in other lands Communists continue to gnaw away at the Left wing of Social Democracy. One can not blink the fact that there is grave danger for the Bruening Cabinet and for the healthy policy of financial and economic rehabilitation."

AL JEUNE, a financial writer who frequently voices the sentiments of the Bank of France, links Hitler's gains with "increased German bankruptcies, difficulties of the Reichsbank, and the flight of capital." He adds in the Paris *Midi:*

"When Hitler registers victories in each election one may ask what political force Bruening continues to represent, and what will become of Germany after the general elections next May.

"The figures in the Hessian elections, like the figures of the Reichsbank's balance, stress the difficult conditions under which the Franco-German pourparlers are proceeding while German politics evolve and Germany's monetary system weakens."

The Enigma of Soviet Wheat

BEWILDERMENT AND DOUBT characterize opinions on the sudden cessation of wheat exports from Soviet Russia.

Explanations of this unexpected turn seem colored largely by the sources they spring from. Those who feel that the Soviet régime must eventually collapse name wheat as one more exhibit in their collection of evidence.

Others seek farther to find what is back of it.

Beginning with the wheat as it comes out of the ground, the official agricultural organ of Moscow, *Sotzialisticheskoye Zemledyelie* tells us that there was an increase of some 8 or 9 per cent. in the total area of wheat cultivation during the past year, as compared with the preceding year 1929-1930.

But this paper also relates that "weather conditions this year have been much worse than they were a year ago." In certain sections of the Ukraine and northern Caucasus, it is said, nearly 47 per cent. of winter sowings was ruined by frost.

Moreover, it didn't help matters, according to this journal, when the collective farms did not reach what was expected of them at harvest time. Scolding the collective farmers, this agricultural authority advises us that:

"The information received from various provinces shows that in some places the harvested grain is not bound into sheaves, and so a great deal of it rots. Again, the wheat is transported so carelessly that much of it leaks out and is lost along the roads.

"Worse still is the fact that the grain is left to lie in the fields.

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There are but a few days left during which it can be saved. But some of the collective farms have not even begun to stir in order to save it."

GATHERING the grain from collective farms, too, other Soviet newspapers inform us, has been beset with difficulties.

Instead of surrendering to the State all grain in excess of the quantity required for their own needs, to receive in exchange manufactured products from the State, the collective farmers are charged with "hoarding and hiding grain." By way of explanation, the official organ of the Central Committee of the Communist party in Moscow, *Pravda*, has this to say:

"A great majority of peasants on collective farms still are moved by the old, petty bourgeois psychology of the little individual proprietor. What is the cause of all this upset and delay in harvesting, of the hiding and hoarding of the grain by collective farmers, of their secret splitting up of grain surpluses to be surrendered to the State and, above all, of the bad organization of production on these farms? Obviously, the cause of it is the bourgeois methods which have found their way into the collective farming."

A democratic anti-Soviet Russian daily, *Possliednia Novosti*, published in Paris, naturally is of hostile mind:

"Apparently, the Soviet Government can not export grain abroad because it lacks not only surpluses, but even the amount needed for feeding its own population. The fact is that it was easy to write about the 'brilliant success of the collective movement.' But it is a long way still to its success. At the time when Russian peasant-farms were being collectivized, the free, uncensored press of Russian emigrés predicted more than once that this whole undertaking of Stalin may end in a failure.

"Meanwhile, the cessation of the offering of Russian grain on international markets may mean that the Soviets are having difficulties on the most important of their 'fronts'—on the front of raising cash by their exportations."

That Russia has fallen behind its schedule for gathering grains from the collective farms, and that the completion of the Soviet fall-sowing plan appears unlikely, is reported by the Department of Agriculture at Washington in a summary of foreign crops and markets. In a United Press dispatch from that city, we read:

"Commenting on the Russian situation, which has been regarded as an important factor in the recent rise in wheat prices, the department said Russian fall sowing now amounted to 87,461,000 acres.

"This is 82 per cent. of the original plan for fall sowings and 87 per cent. of the total winter acreage last year.

"The report, based on information from the American agricultural attaché at Berlin, said the Russian procurings to October 25 were 54 per cent. of the yearly plan and 39 per cent. of the monthly plan."

AN interesting point on Russian wheat production is noted in the New York *Herald Tribune* by Hickman Price, Jr., after a recent extensive tour of Russia to study economic conditions. He observes:

"Even if the peasants, the rawest type of labor, can learn in a few years the intelligent use and proper care of machinery, which it has taken the American farmer three generations to learn, it is still doubtful if over a period of years Russian wheat production can be profitably conducted with the use of foreign-bought machinery.

"A highly important phase of Russian mechanized agriculture is the production of its own machinery and implements. At the present time Russian tractor and implement production seems to be in a chaotic condition.

"According to the *Pravda*, The Fordson tractor factory at Leningrad, which is reported to have cost the Government many millions of dollars, was abandoned this summer; the Stalingrad tractor factory has never reached a satisfactory rate of production, and the life of the machine has been estimated at 300 working hours; the implement factory at Rostov-on-Don and a number of other plants are said to be in a deplorable condition.

"Because of a poor knowledge and utilization of metals, the life of these tractors and implements hardly makes their production worth while."

A "Mountie" Tracks Communists

EIGHT RED-FLAG FOLLOWERS, convicted in Toronto as members of an unlawful association and as parties to a seditious conspiracy, could not believe their eyes as they stared at the chief witness against them, a red-coated officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Sergeant John Leopold.

He was no "Mountie" to them, but Comrade E. W. Esselwain, who for seven years had sat in the councils of Canadian Communists, and had risen to be an official of the organization.

The eight defendants believed him when he said to the court that he had served as secretary of the Regina branch of the Communist party. They believed him, too, when he related that at one time he had been arrested in Toronto for taking part

Acme photograph

The Strange Case of—

Comrade E. W. Esselwain of the Communist party in Canada and of Sergeant Leopold of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

in a Communist demonstration. They believed all he said practically, but they never believed he was a Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman.

Supplementing Sergeant Leopold's testimony, Toronto Associated Press dispatches inform us, the prosecution offered batches of documents seized in raids on Communist headquarters which prove that the Canadian Communists were financed by money from Moscow, and that the organization had as its object the overthrow of the Canadian Government by force and violence.

The conviction of the eight Canadian Communists, we read further, marks the climax of a ten years' campaign by the Canadian Government to bring about a test of the legality of the Communist party in the Dominion.

The trial is described as the first definite action launched against the Communist party as an organization on the American continent. The only comparable action, it is said, was that of the Japanese Government against the Communist party in Japan.

SEVEN of the defendants received five-year and two-year sentences, to run concurrently. The court recommended that they be deported after the expiration of their terms. The eighth defendant received a one-year and a two-year sentence, also to run concurrently.

The conviction of these men, dispatches further report, paves the way for the arrest of the 4,000 or 5,000 Communists whose names appear on party rolls confiscated by Sergeant Leopold during his investigation.

Canadian editors generally give unrestrained approval to the

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conviction and the sentences of the Communists. The prospect of their deportation is even more warmly acclaimed. As to treatment of the defendants by the court, the Toronto *Mail and Empire* declares:

"These men were given an absolutely fair trial. They were allowed every opportunity to defend themselves; they had excellent counsel; their leader was permitted to talk hours on end to the judge and jury. The judge was a man of liberal views, and the jury was a hand-picked one chosen by counsel for the prisoners. A panel of 140 jurymen was almost exhausted before twelve men were found acceptable to the accused.

"There has been no harshness or vindictiveness behind the prosecution. In seeking to block a conspiracy against the State, the Crown has played cricket from first to last.

"The convicted men themselves must feel that they have been given absolute fair play, and that the authorities, in performance of their duty, could not have acted otherwise than they have."

THE St. John *Telegraph-Journal* rejoices that after these Communists leave prison, they will be "bundled out of the country." Also it hopes that no effort will be spared "to round up all their associates, and if they are deportable, to banish them from the country."

But the trial inclines the Vancouver *Province* to believe that the Reds of Canada are not really "a secret and serious menace to Canadian institutions," for—

"On their own testimony, it appears, the Reds of Canada are rather pathetic and absurd.

"Somehow or other, what most of all emerges from the Toronto trial is the conviction that the typical Red nowadays is really a character straight out of the Christmas pantomime, and that really the only proper thing to do about him is to enjoy him as an excellent joke."

A Who's What of Britain's New Parliament

PEOPLE who don't work for a living, but live on their money, outnumber all other classes in the House of Commons to-day. Lawyers come next of those elected in the great National Conservative victory, and business men follow the lawyers pretty closely. In tables compiled by Prof. H. J. Laski, and contributed to the London *New Statesman and Nation*, the word 'aristocrat' means either the holder of a hereditary title, or the son or wife of such a person. 'Rentiers' are those who live on inherited wealth and follow no occupation.

TABLE I

Members' Vocations	*Number*
Rentiers	165
Business Men	111
Lawyers	136
Accountants	8
Soldiers and Sailors	43
Farmer-Landowners	15
Teachers	11
Bankers and Financiers	47
Doctors	14
Retired Civil Servants	5
Journalists	15
Brewers	5
Trade Unionists	32
Others	8
	615

These results are grouped by parties in Table II. A few independents, of various leanings, are excluded from this table.

TABLE II

Members' Vocations	*Tory*	*Liberal (Samuel)*	*Liberal (Simon)*	*MacD. Labor*	*Labor*
Rentiers	150	9	1	3	2
Business Men	73	6	17	1	3
Lawyers	111	10	9	4	3
Accountants	6	—	2	—	—
Soldiers and Sailors	42	—	—	—	—
Farmer-Landowners	14	—	—	1	—
Teachers	5	2	—	—	4
Bankers and Financiers	44	1	1	1	—
Doctors	9	1	1	1	2
Retired Civil Servants	5	—	—	—	—
Journalists	8	3	3	1	—
Brewers	5	—	—	—	—
Trade Unionists	—	—	—	—	32
Others	—	1	—	1	6
	472	33	34	13	52

How a Frenchman Sizes Us Up

AMERICAN PHENOMENA, psychological, economic, and social, attract much more attention in France since the visit to President Hoover of Premier Laval. So says a distinguished French journalist, Lucien Romier, who makes a searching diagnosis of Americans to help his countrymen to understand us better.

Our first trouble is psychological, he avers, in the Toulouse *Dépêche*, and for foreigners to understand that trouble, they must acquaint themselves with the mental habits and the moral atmosphere of Americans. These habits of mind and this atmosphere, he hastens to add, are very different from those of the French. For instance:

"The social whole of the United States is neither a nation in the historic sense, nor a community and continuity of civic life in the political sense.

"It is an agglomeration of economic origin.

"The social bond is formed solely by economic ties, otherwise exprest as the dependence of persons, communities, and ambitions, one toward the other, in the quest of one objective only: wealth and profit. Thence proceeds the constant occupation of 'making money,' which at bottom governs American thought."

Mr. Romier then takes a shot at American patriotism. The American, he says, is not patriotic in the French meaning of the word. He is only proud of his "nationality," more proud perhaps than the people of any other country.

Now this pride, it is claimed, finds its source not in "a patrimony of moral affections," but in the consciousness of the practical advantages the American enjoys through being a citizen of the United States. He holds that one-third at least of the population of the United States is bound to the American fatherland only by its recognition of a better lot in the country.

The French writer adds to this psychological trouble of Americans the extreme uncertainty of our ideas. He maintains:

"The economic system of the United States has rested, since the war, and still rests upon a palpable contradiction. This contradiction appears in the ultimate incompatibility of an ethnical and trade protectionism of unprecedented strictness.

"Since the war Americans have aimed to limit, if not to forbid, the entry into the United States of immigrants. The reason given was the protection of their workers against the competition of low-priced labor. Now, they have not only been unable to maintain wages at the height to which they raised them, but to-day they have more than six million idle workers.

"They aimed to close their ports to foreign goods, and, in particular, to European products in order to keep their own industry supplied with customers of their home markets. To-day, their industry no longer moves except at a pace about one-half capacity production.

"To-day, a good part of the capital they invested outside their own country is stagnant in plants that do not pay, and the greater part of the short credits they have spread over the world are, as it is called, 'frozen.'"

IN a word, Mr. Romier charges the Americans thought they could avoid paying heavy taxes and make sure of regular resources for their budget, by obliging Europe to hand over to them enormous sums of money as war debts. This very year, he reminds us, at the moment when the budget of the United States showed a crying deficit, the Americans were obliged to grant a year's moratorium to their European debtors. The moral of all this in the eyes of this French diagnostician seems to be:

"It is believable that such distress and such deception, not to speak of imminent risks apparent in the evolution of the crisis, may, in the long run, arouse among the American masses a movement of spite against its leaders.

"If one adds that a Presidential election is due within some months, it is easy to understand the haste with which those in power try to reanimate popular optimism by sensational acts and gestures."

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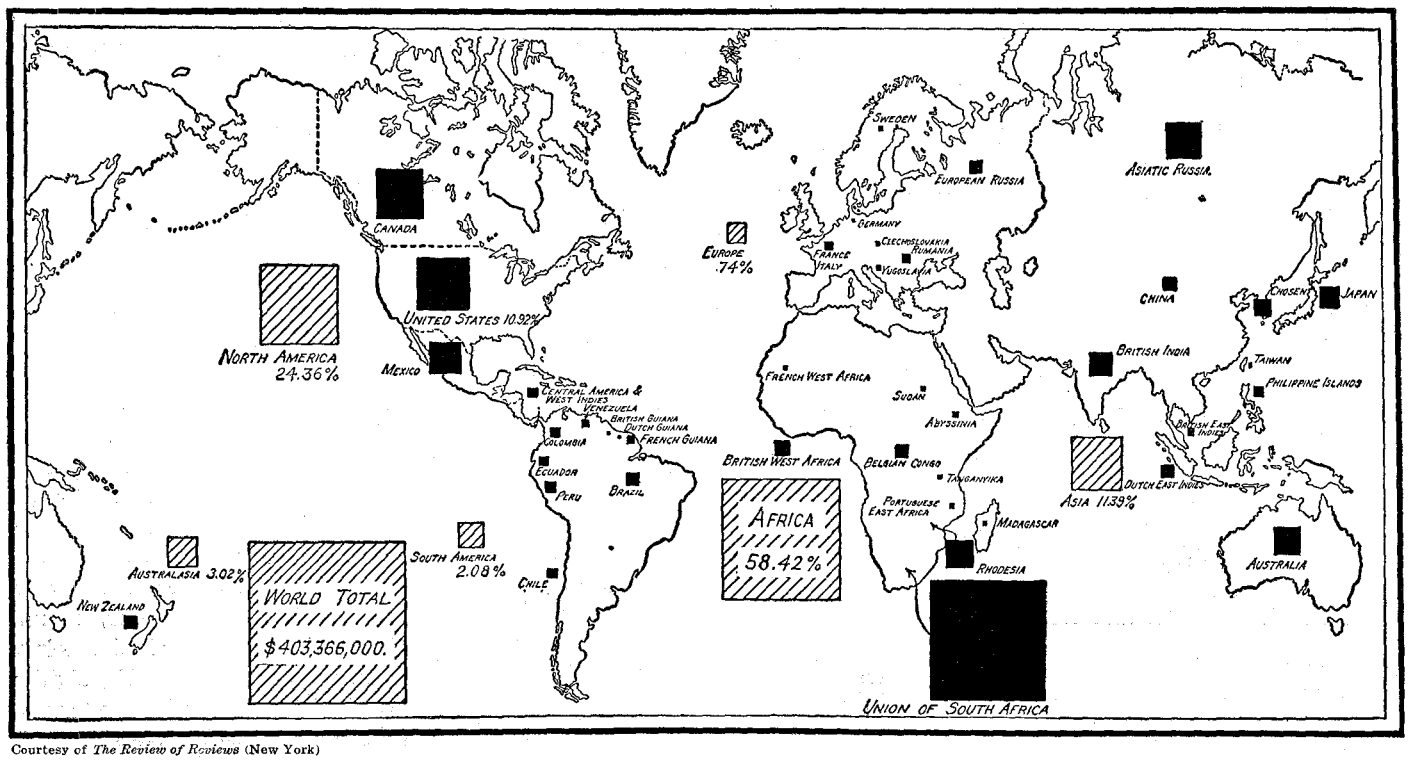

Courtesy of *The Review of Reviews* (New York)

Leading Gold-Producing Nations and Their Output for 1929

Good Times for Gold

GOLD-MINERS WILL PROSPER during the next ten years.

This prediction merits attention at a time when several big and little nations are slipping off the gold basis.

The rosy forecast for gold is made in *The Review of Reviews* (New York), by Anthony Anable, under the heading above.

Facts that he brings to support it, drawn from the present state of our reserves, the gold deposits yet untouched, and the great progress made in recent years in mining and refining it, are given in Mr. Anable's article, which runs, in part, as follows:

"Startling facts appear when one reviews the gold reserves available for monetary purposes, the rate of gold-mining in centers of production, and present methods of winning the precious metal from the earth:

"First. The world's annual production of gold has remained practically stationary for eight years, at slightly less than 20,000,000 ounces. Unless new fields are discovered, or more efficient mining and milling methods developed, production is likely to decrease by about one-quarter during the next ten years.

"Second. The amount of gold annually consumed by the arts and crafts, coupled with the loss from wear and tear, and hoarding in countries such as India, China, and Africa, leaves less gold available for monetary purposes than is required to support the increasing volume of international currency and credit.

"Third. No new gold fields of importance have been developed since 1911, and no new method of recovering the metal from its ore has been perfected, until very recently, since 1886.

"Even tho gold production is not keeping pace with increasing demands, the depression has already set in motion both economic and engineering forces which may well rejuvenate our gold-producing industry. Those forces which in boom years carried commodity values and wages to peak levels deprest the gold industry.

"Gold alone remained constant in value, while costs of mining and milling leaped to unheard-of heights. Mines were abandoned, and both operators and prospectors migrated to the more prosperous base-metal work—copper, lead, zinc, and even iron."

Now, we are told, the situation is reversed. Labor, material, and all elements of cost have dropt, and with them the prices of baser metals. In a world of diminishing prices, gold alone remains constant. This may well result, Mr. Anable thinks, in the greatest gold rush of the century. He goes on:

"Experienced workers and prospectors, who forsook the gold mines for the shops and base-metal properties, have returned to their former occupations. Metallurgical engineers and chemists, displaced by the depression in copper, lead, and zinc, are bringing their knowledge and experience to bear on the technical problems of gold. And bankers, dismayed by prevailing industrial conditions, are supplying the capital and directive effort needed for effecting the hoped-for renaissance of gold production."

HALF the world's gold production since 1493, we are assured, has disappeared into use by the arts and crafts or into hoarding in India and elsewhere. Furthermore:

"Where twenty-five or thirty years ago there was an abundance of deposits to be found assaying from $20 to $30 per ton, practically all these have been depleted. To-day the majority of the producing mines of the world are making extractions of about 86 to 94 per cent. on ores containing from $5 to $12 of gold per ton. Among the exceptions to this are the remarkable operations of Alaska Juneau, Alaska, on $.80-$.90 ore, Mountain Copper Company, California, on about $1.25 ore. Several companies in foreign fields, too, are the fortunate possessors of deposits assaying $15 to $25 a ton."

After describing the processes used for recovering gold, Mr. Anable then makes this prediction:

"He who attempts to forecast events in these troubled days is often doomed to disappointment. But in gold-mining the evidence is so striking as to encourage conjecture as to the ultimate outcome of new forces now set in motion.

"The next decade should see generally good times for gold-miners, and greater support of the industry by bankers.

"Many an old mill reaching the end of its economic life will be revitalized by flotation, many a refractory sulfid deposit will be developed, old débris piles will be reworked and operations will be conducted on a tonnage comparable with that in the copper industry, so that these low value deposits may be worked profitably."

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Giant Burning Glass to Make Record Heat

A HUGE BURNING GLASS of nineteen lenses, each two feet in diameter, as well as nineteen smaller ones, will soon be in operation at Pasadena at the new Astrophysical Laboratory of the California Institute of Technology.

With its aid, it is hoped, temperatures as high as those in the sun-spots, around 10,000 degrees Fahrenheit, will be attained, and astronomers will be able to study at close range how various substances behave when so heated. We read in *Science News Letter*, a Science Service publication (Washington):

"The new instrument has been developed by Dr. John A. Anderson, of the Mt. Wilson Observatory, who originated the general design of the lenses, and Russell W. Porter, who worked out the practical details of a mounting for the instrument, so that it can follow the sun as it moves across the sky.

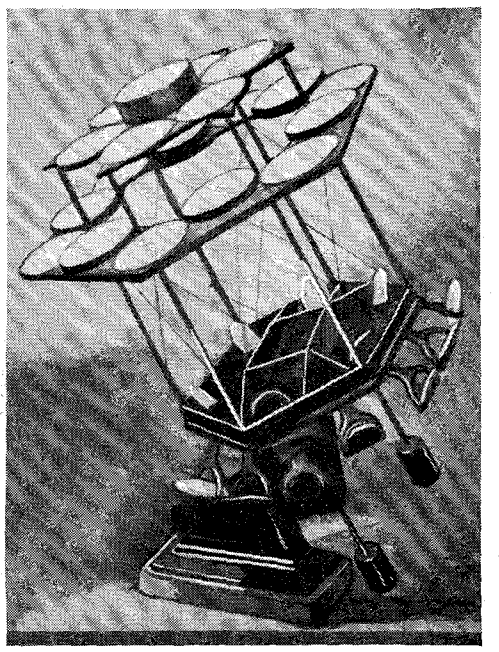
"The sun's light and heat fall first on the nineteen two-foot lenses, which by themselves would bring the rays to a focus at points twelve feet away.

"A set of eighteen mirrors reflects each beam to the center, where it meets the other beams. Before reaching the center, however, each beam passes through a smaller lens, seven inches in diameter, which concentrates it still further. The beam from the center two-foot lens passes directly into the second lens without reflection from a mirror.

"At first, the large beam of sunlight which supplies the whole battery of lenses is ten feet in diameter, but at the final focus of the instrument it is reduced to an area the size of one's little finger-nail, so that the energy is concentrated about 200,000 times. The material to be studied will be placed in an evacuated glass bulb, made large enough not to be melted by the intense heat.

"As the material vaporizes under the temperature—and no substance is known which will withstand it—it will give off light, which will pass into an adjacent dark room, where it can be analyzed by powerful spectroscopes.

"The erection of the new astrophysical laboratory, of which the solar furnace will be part, is one of the steps in a new program being undertaken at the California Institute of Technology, in studying the phenomena that occur in the heavens. The 200-inch telescope, double the size of any existing at present, which is now under construction, is part of the same program."



Courtesy of Science Service, Washington, D. C.

Model of the Giant Burning Glass

Insects Hamper the Five-Year Plan

IMPORTANT economic plans of the Government of Soviet Russia threaten to be thwarted by that humble insect, the bedbug, declares Dr. E. E. Free in his *Week's Science* (New York). We read:

"As part of two of the chief units of Russia's 'Five-Year Plan,' the housing campaign and the farm campaign, the Soviet Government mobilized many months ago gangs of laborers who were to live in barracks and work on new houses or in the fields. At a recent meeting of the Union of Sanitary Workers in Moscow it was admitted that bedbugs largely had defeated both of these plans for barrack housing of necessary workers.

"These insects appeared in enormous numbers in the workers' barracks. Means of exterminating them were lacking, and the sanitary officials were helpless. As one result, the workers refused either to live in the infested houses or to work at the assigned jobs.

"News from the 'bedbug front' still is reported as discouraging, Soviet scientists having failed to devise any practicable means of getting rid of the insects."

Autumn Colors

THE COLORING OF LEAVES IN THE FALL is not, as many people suppose, the result of the first sharp frost.

It is a chemical process, favored by gradual cooling rather than sudden cold.

Through the season of growth the leaves serve as food factories for the trees. In their cells the carbon of the air is combined with materials brought up by the sap from the roots to form starch, sugar, and other substances by which the whole tree is fed.

The food-making process is performed by sunshine with the aid of a substance called chlorophyll, or leaf green. Chlorophyll is a mixture of several pigments, or coloring matters. One of these is green, and gives the leaves their ordinary color. Another is yellow, and is the same substance that, on account of its abundance in growing grass, makes butter particularly yellow in the spring. This information is furnished by Charles Fitzhugh Talman in his Science Service feature *Why the Weather?* (Washington.) He goes on:

"When the cool weather sets in and the growth of vegetation slows down, the trees need less food, and gradually suspend work in the leaf factories. Both the food and the chlorophyll in the leaves are drawn into the body of the tree and stored up for use in the spring.

"This transfer involves many chemical changes.

"One of them is the breaking up of the chlorophyll into the substances of which it is composed. The green pigment passes out of the leaves before the yellow. Thus yellow becomes one of the prevailing hues of autumn foliage.

"The reds, which also prevail in the autumn, do not come from the chlorophyll, but from the pigments contained in the sap. Their appearance indicates an excess of sugar in the leaves, after the withdrawal of other materials."

Edison's Working Hours

EDISON was one of that company who, "while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night."

His habit of working day and night till his task was done is related by one of his lifetime friends, John F. O'Hagan, in the New York *Times*.

For years Edison, if he went home at all, would arrive at the laboratory at seven o'clock in the morning, we are told; and if men had been at work during the night he would check up what had been accomplished, and have suggestions for the continuation of the experiment by the men who were to work during the day. Then he would take his own place to do some of the most important work. And then:

"By noon he ate a light lunch, read the papers, received visitors, if there were any, and also conferred with those who were his business executives. At one o'clock he was back at his bench again checking up what his assistants had done, and advising them as to procedure. There were no independent experiments in the Edison laboratory. 'The Old Man' was the director-general, and his ideas prevailed, as many a new assistant soon learned after he attempted to digress from the daily written instructions which were given him.

"It was only in late years that Mr. Edison went to his home regularly to enjoy a seven-o'clock dinner with his family. At times for days and weeks he never left the 'Lab,' and his food

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and change of clothing were brought to him from Glenmont, his Llewellyn Park estate, not far from his plant.

"So keen was the inventor's mind that of the countless—it probably runs into millions—experiments which he conducted not one was ever repeated. Often an assistant would suggest a certain plan. Edison would tell him that twenty or thirty years before he had tried that, and then would tell him why it wouldn't work.

"His mind was encyclopedic. His memory was marvelous."

The Frost on the Baby Crop

BY THIS RATHER STRIKING HEAD-LINE *Good Health* (Battle Creek, Mich.) calls attention to the fact—equally striking, that of three million babies born last year in the United States two hundred thousand died before they reached the age of one year.

The cash value of these babies, according to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, is at least seven hundred and fifty million dollars, to say nothing of the loss through destruction of budding geniuses, discoverers, creators of wealth, which can not be estimated.

If these babies had had the good fortune to be born in New Zealand, we are told, eighty thousand of them would be alive and flourishing, with every prospect of becoming useful citizens. To quote further:

"Why should a boy born in New Zealand have a better chance for his life than if born in America?

"Simply because he has more intelligent care.

"At least three-fourths of the two hundred thousand babies we lose every year are sacrificed to ignorance. The American mother loves her baby as much as does the New Zealand mother, and does for it the best she knows how to do; but she lacks the knowledge necessary to enable her to safeguard the physical welfare of her child. Our public-school curriculum does not comprise instruction in the care and nurture of infants, which should be made an essential part of the training of every girl.

"The ape mother knows by instinct how to care for her infant, and the natural environment in which she lives supplies favorable conditions for the normal development of the young anthropoid; but the human mother lacks this instinctive knowledge accumulated by a thousand generations of ancestral ape mothers, and so must be taught the technique of infant rearing.

"Furthermore, the artificial conditions of our perverted civilized life in many ways menace the infant's life and health, and the mother must be warned of these and taught how to protect her infant therefrom.

"A recognition of these facts has led to the saving of more than a million infants in this country, alone, within less than twenty years.

"Fifteen years ago every tenth infant born perished before it had lived a year. Through the diffusion of knowledge about the care of infants and mothers the mortality rate of infants the first year has been reduced from one hundred per thousand to sixty-five, a saving of more than one-third.

"But within recent years the fall of the infant death-rate has ceased, and has shown a tendency upward in this country, while it has continued to fall in New Zealand and reached in 1928 the low level of forty per thousand."

A POSSIBLE explanation of this higher infant mortality, the writer thinks, may be the rapid spread of smoking among women in this country. Dr. Gy, an eminent French physician, in experiments with guinea-pigs and rabbits, found the effects of tobacco to be highly injurious. Depierris, another French physician, found the hatchlings of fowls exposed to tobacco smoke were "meager and feeble, and one-third died in a few days. Smoking by expectant or nursing mothers most certainly had a most pernicious effect upon their offspring, many of whom were born with damaged livers." We read on:

"But the chief cause of the high mortality rate of young infants is without doubt improper feeding.

"A young infant has feeble resistance to disease. The wild germs which get into its interior through food and drink and the air it breathes are a constant menace to its health and life, and would speedily destroy it but for the protection afforded by friendly or protective germs which nature puts into the infant's intestines to combat the disease-producing germs.

"These friendly germs produce acids which destroy the disease germs that cause colitis and other bowel troubles. To enable them to grow in sufficient numbers to afford protection by producing a sufficient amount of lactic acid to prevent the growth of the unfriendly germs, they must have an abundance of lactose or milk sugar. For this reason nature puts this sugar into the milk of all animals. Cow's milk contains much less than does mother's milk, and hence bottle-fed babies should be given lactose in liberal quantities—at least an ounce a day.

"Nursing and expectant mothers should take care to eat an abundance of spinach, lettuce, and other greenstuffs to supply vitamins and bone-building minerals. The infant should begin early to eat fresh vegetables, and especially purées of potatoes, spinach, carrots, and tomatoes. Purées of apples and bananas are especially beneficial, and for nursing as well as bottle-fed infants. Vegetable purées may be given as soon as the teeth begin to appear, and even earlier.

Photographed in the Dark

"It is hardly necessary to mention orange juice, as every mother knows the importance of making free use of orange or tomato juice.

"The use of meat broths and meat juices in the feeding of infants is most deleterious. Meat juices are especially objectionable because they are swarming with colon germs and bacteria which give rise to colitis and appendicitis. Purées of spinach, dates, raisins, figs, prunes, and creams prepared from almonds and other nuts are far better sources of iron and other minerals than are meat juices.

"Yellow vegetables, especially carrots, are a precious source of the essential vitamin A. This is also true of the papaya, which is richer in this vitamin than any other fruit.

"It is of the highest importance that the bowels should be kept active by the use of laxative foods and efficient food accessories. Laxative drugs are most harmful. The famous Dr. von Noorden has shown that they cause colitis and they make constipation worse.

"The saving of the two hundred thousand babies which we are sacrificing by ignorance and neglect is the greatest humanitarian and economic problem before the country."

Photographed in the Dark

THE accompanying photograph of business men and bankers visiting the new Kodak Research Laboratories, under the auspices of the National Research Council, was taken in pitch-black darkness, we are told in a press bulletin issued by the Council. To quote:

"Actually, altho eyes could see nothing, the room was flooded with invisible infra-red rays supplied by sixteen 1000-watt lamps in an otherwise light-tight booth covered by a filter which allowed none but the infra-red rays to pass into the room. The special plates in the camera were sensitive to the infra-red rays, and recorded the scene. The camera lens was open at f. 3.5, and an exposure of one second was given."

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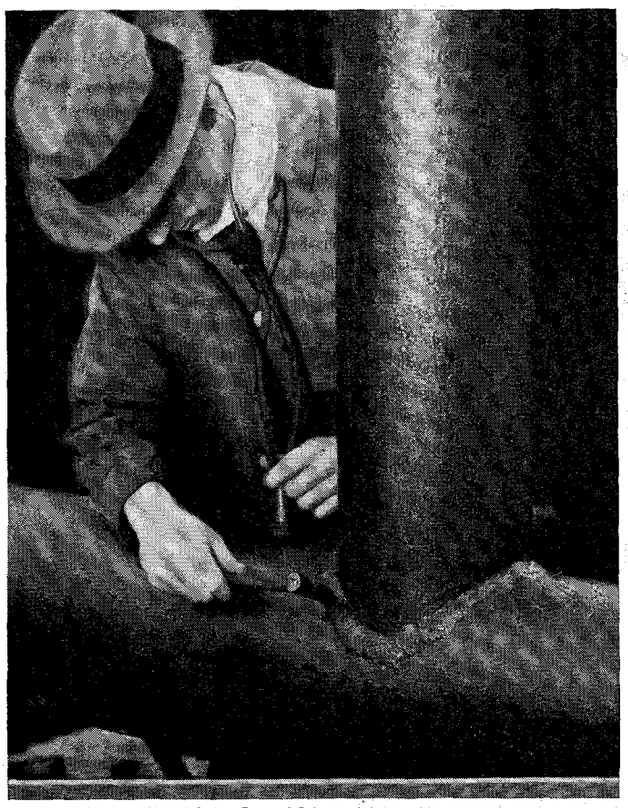
Testing Welds With the Stethoscope

THIS INSTRUMENT, DEVISED AND LONG USED by physicians to detect abnormal sounds in the human chest and other parts of the body, in the diagnosis of disease, is now employed by engineers to test for faults in welded metal.

Testing by hammer-tapping has long been familiar, and travelers by night trains often hear it carried out on the car-wheels beneath their berths, in which case they are not usually pleased, altho the test is a precaution to insure their safety.

In welded metal, however, the ordinary hammer may injure the weld. The use of the stethoscope enables the test to be carried out gently but effectively. Writes J. R. Dawson, metallurgical engineer of the Union Carbide and Carbon Research Laboratories, Pittsburgh, in *Power-Plant Engineering* (Chicago):



Courtesy of Union Carbide and Carbon Research Laboratories

Just Like Listening to a Cough

Using a stethoscope to find flaws in a weld.

"The same principle is involved as is used by a blacksmith when he strikes a piece of metal to find whether it rings true, or when stay-bolts are tested by tapping them with a hammer. The stethoscope is the type commonly used by physicians. Over the end piece is placed a soft rubber cap. When listening, the operator presses the end with the soft rubber covering firmly against the metal containing the weld which is to be tested.

"The weld is tapped with a hammer at intervals of about one inch along its entire length. The pipe, vessel, or structural member being tested will have a natural vibration, and there will be also forced vibration, both of which are set up by the blow. The sound due to the natural vibration should first be determined, and then the important things to be listened for are the first sounds obtained upon striking.

"Upon striking points on the weld which are free from defects, the sounds will be similar, and as the portion of the weld containing a discontinuity is approached, a high-pitched, reedy sound will be increasingly noticeable. This sound is the first one heard after the blow, and then as the waves are reflected, a defect in the weld will tend to cause rapid damping of the sound. The first sounds are followed by others produced by a combination of the natural vibration of the structure as a whole and the vibration due to the condition of the material immediately under the hammer. Initial sounds, however, are more important for judging the thoroughness of the fusion in the weld. Blow-holes and sponginess cause damping, but they have small effect on the initial sounds."

The By-Products of an Accident

THESE MAY BE FAR MORE serious and expensive than the accident itself.

So declares Robert Clair, supervising engineer of the Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, in an address printed in *The National Safety News* (Chicago).

Injury to an operative usually takes up our attention, and may be very serious indeed; yet it may be only a small part of the complicated train of untoward events to which it gives rise.

And even if the operative escapes, the same series of troubles may ensue, and their costs may pile up, sometimes unheeded. Writes Mr. Clair:

"I began my accident-prevention apprenticeship in a factory employing about 2,000 workers, and early in my experience I investigated an accident which now stands out vividly in my memory.

"Our sales department had been trying for a long time to interest a large Mid-Western manufacturer in our brass castings. Suddenly, one day, an order came for a half-dozen sample castings to be made to specifications.

"This meant that we had a chance to get the long-sought business. This was all we wanted, for we had every confidence that the big order would be ours.

"There was just time enough before the delivery date to allow for normal speed of production and transportation. Our most skilful finisher, Tom Smith, was selected for edging, grinding off, and polishing the castings.

"Tom had finished the fourth casting, and was starting on the fifth. That fifth casting had a larger-than-average edge sprue, which had been bent over sharply. In an effort to get just the right contact between the casting and the wheel, Tom tilted the piece up into a high, clumsy angle, with his right hand between the casting and the wheel. The edge caught; Tom's hand was pinned between the face of the casting, the wheel and the hood guard.

"The moment that accident happened, a complicated series of costs began to pile up.

"The injury caused permanent partial disability, necessitating partial amputation of two fingers, and the remaining parts of the hand were almost useless. Tom was thirty-nine years old, and as an efficient production unit his usefulness was over.

"Within a short time acute financial problems arose. Of course, Tom's employer did his best for him by finding simpler tasks in the plant. But Tom has never been able to overcome a melancholy complex resulting from the loss of his larger usefulness. The old fire of his ambition is dead.

"The fatal fifth casting was ruined in the accident, and an extra sample had not been cast. The potential customer wanted six, and the expense of producing an additional casting was undertaken under an almost impossible time limit. The sixth casting did not arrive until two days after the tests had been completed by the potential customer.

"The order was not completely lost, but no one has ever been able to convince our sales department that it was not the absence of that one casting that made the difference between the actual order for two carloads and the expected order for twenty.

"Assuming that the missing sixth casting would have clinched the order for that additional annual business, I have often wondered what amount of profit to the company and of wages to the employees were lost through Tom's accident.

"Can it be that many of us, as safety engineers, have been concerning ourselves with only one-half of the accident problem? If our plant-accident records are high, let us consider the fact as a challenge of the plant's operating efficiency, and let us make complete studies of all near accidents and acts of carelessness, as well as those which result in compensable injuries."

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A Hamlet of "Lights" and "Shades"

HOW TO DO "HAMLET" in a new way, if it is done at all!

This seems to be the first consideration of modern producers, and Norman Bel Geddes, in his show at the Broadhurst Theater, New York, exhausts about all the possibilities of change.

The "Hamlet" he has designed, staged, directed, drest, and illuminated, with Raymond Massey as the Prince, sets a fine argument for modernists and sticklers for tradition.

It is no modern-dress "Hamlet"; the clothes might have been out of Beerbohm Tree's wardrobe; but all the rest is different.

Hamlet lops off bits here and there of his too-long speeches, and appropriates all the words of the *Ghost*, who is reduced to a gleaming fantom. He even dismisses unwanted characters like *Osric*. He spends little thought over melancholy brooding. He is provided with a stage of various levels so that only light and shadows are needed to change the scenes.

Gilbert Gabriel of the New York *American* is one of those critics who like their classics modernized. He begins with a bursting head-line, "'Hamlet'—by Geddes!" and justifies himself:

"I know that the purist and poetasters—of whom I've admitted I'm not one—will not agree with me. They'll make grudging admittance of how good it all was to the eyes, but then they'll go sternly on to complain of what it does to the ears.

"They'll accuse Mr. Geddes of no small expurgations, and of occasional vulgarizations, too. They'll complain of his engulfing the whole of *Hamlet's* Denmark in scenic and musical effects and flood lights and ensembles.

"I can only remind them that Sir Henry Irving, when he would do Shakespeare in the way he thought the audiences of his times wanted it, got almost the same thanks.

"But, unless you're a schoolmarm or a verse anthologist, or something nice and precise like that, you'll not faint at these changes.

"On the contrary, you may sit forward on the edge of your seat—which I found myself doing for the first time at a Shakespearian production in forty years—and be keyed up to highest possible pitch.

"The duel scene at the end, for instance, is a blazing thriller. Think of the silly duel scenes you've smirked at and forgiven for the poetry's sweet sake so often of yore . . . and then see this one."

THEN he turns his attention to the chief actor:

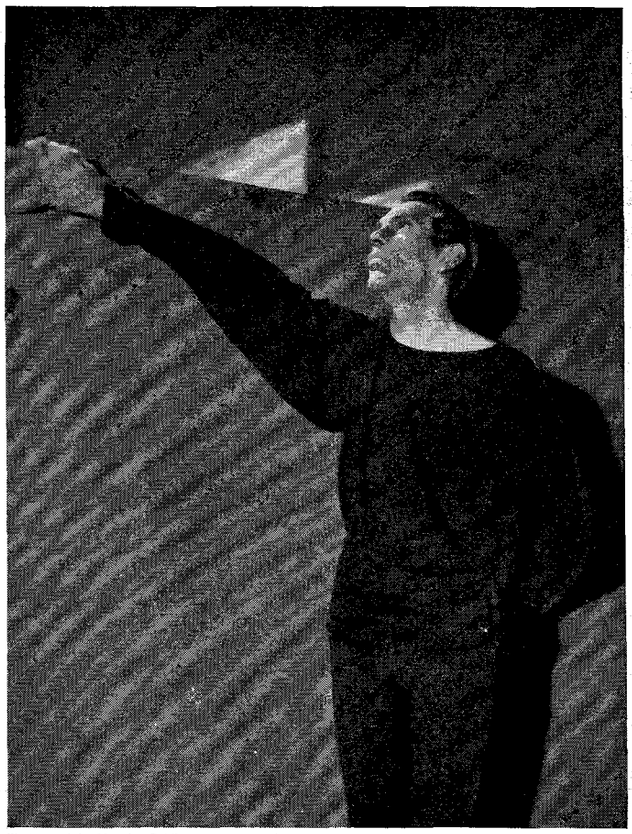
"Raymond Massey, the English star—a comedian as much as a tragedian over there—is imported to be the *Hamlet* here. I have an instant respect for this *Hamlet*. It is a genuinely human, plausible, clear *Hamlet*.

"It is nervous, febrile, but never maniacal or stagey. It is as thrusting as the text itself has become. It lacks dignity, the old boys will tell you—they will really mean that it lacks sonority and sing-song and velvet ruffles—lacks them purposely, and does not want them.

"Mr. Massey's is a gaunt, lank figure, casting a shadow now and then like a huge spider's on the huger drapes behind him.

"He resembles a little our own Mr. Lunt at the end of a year of famine. The same sharp but mobile features, the same fulminating eye, the same rather flat and high, but excellently reaching voice.

"He makes his *Hamlet* an utter *Tyl Eulenspiegel* at times. But he never, thank God, makes him a stuffed ham."



Photograph by Maurice Goldberg

"Gaunt, Lank," but "Never a Stuffed Ham"

Raymond Massey begins the great soliloquy of "Hamlet" in the shadows; and emerges to finish it as seen here.

MR. RICHARD LOCKRIDGE of *The Sun* is no traditionalist, but he finds Mr. Geddes setting his actors an impossible task:

"Where this production falls short of the ideal is, of course, at the point of contact between the brooding symbolism of the sets and the sober actuality of the people who play before them.

"Acting which might have proved entirely satisfactory on the Shakespearian stage, or even on yesterday's stage of literal settings, is unequal to the task set it by modern symbolism. Raymond Massey's *Hamlet*, in this instance, is entirely unequal to Mr. Geddes's *Hamlet*, altho it is the interesting and flexible performance of a skilled modern actor. The *Horatio* of Leon Quartermaine, inclined in any event to oversweetness, is all but crusht by Mr. Geddes's central block; Miss Celia Johnson's charming *Ophelia* suggests a bird fluttering, prettily, in the shadow of a mountain. I fear Mr. Geddes's sets presuppose genius where it does not exist.

"I have little quarrel with Mr. Massey's *Hamlet*, as *Hamlet*. It does, to be sure, now and then, suggest modern clothes; it is always intelligent, and never inspired. It is completely human and believable, and under circumstances which did not suggest the presence of the gods might have stood more solidly on its own merits.

"Mr. Massey's appearance is certainly a little startling—he is remarkably long and lean, and his mobile face is quite lacking in classic outlines. His acting is quiet, reasonable, well studied; his chief fault, within his own outline of the rôle, is a tendency to make his 'points' in a flow of language so rapid as to be almost incomprehensible—which might readily enough be incomprehensible, indeed, in a play where memory was not so quick to serve.

"His *Hamlet* is a sensitive, rather limited, and sometimes querulous man; thinking and speaking in prose."

THIS leads us up to Mr. Atkinson of *The Times*, who thinks Shakespeare is given too little hand in the play:

"Mr. Bel Geddes and Shakespeare disagree most violently about the theme of the play. To Mr. Bel Geddes it is a play of

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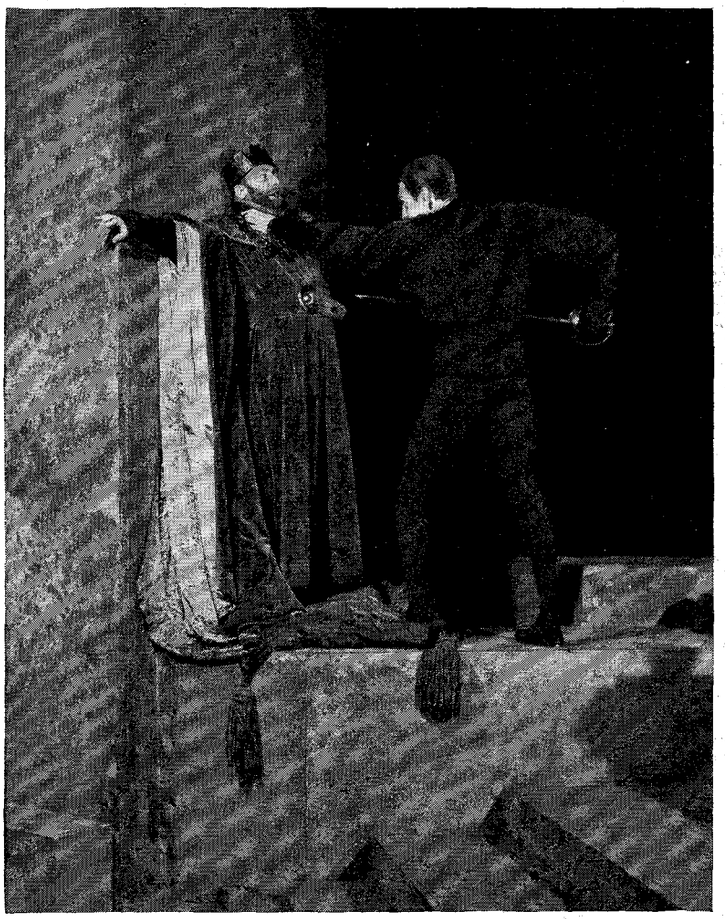
action, to be interpreted with the nervous agility of contemporary life.

"Since the drama is heavily encumbered with thoughts, dreams, and verses, Mr. Bel Geddes has hacked and transposed until no idle philosophy is left to trip up his scenery. What he has left is, to this department, an incoherent, flat and unprofitable narrative that would hardly be intelligible to any one unschooled in the play.

"For Mr. Bel Geddes's 'Hamlet' is entirely exterior. To Shakespeare it had something to do with thoughts beyond the reaches of the soul.

"To Shakespeare it must also have been a play for acting. But the invalided version Mr. Bel Geddes has scattered across his scenery makes it almost impossible to estimate the qualities of the players.



"Then, Venom, to Thy Work"

Mr. Massey's "Hamlet" does the "King" in with vigor and dispatch.

"Raymond Massey, who has come over from England to make his first appearance as *Hamlet*, is an engaging youth with considerable charm of personality.

"But this boyish, affable *Hamlet* has nothing of *Hamlet's* melancholia. It has none of the nobility of a prince, and none of the sickly wonder of a thinker.

"The version Mr. Massey is playing is so truncated that the part is almost without motivation. And when Mr. Massey is required to speak the *Ghost's* lines, and to distinguish them from his own by a series of bodily convulsions, you are likely to think that modern interpretation has become crack-brained.

"Mr. Massey's quiet, pleading voice lacks the body for the part. His colloquial delivery of the lines is frequently unintelligible.

"There is no suggestion in his playing of a man whose mental disease grows increasingly violent, resulting in cynicism, hatred, and rancor. For thoughts and verses have no prestige in a play of nervous action.

"It is not Mr. Massey's fault altogether. By staging and cutting this production of 'Hamlet' has done everything possible to rob the chief part of its grandeur and the play of its meaning."

Horrors of American Humor

JONATHAN W. BROWN WANTED TO PUT OUT the fire in the fireplace.

He took up the benzine can by mistake.

His clothes fit his widow's second husband beautifully.

This anecdote supplies such a typical illustration of American wit and humor that it is placed by Helene Levinger at the beginning of her article on the subject in the Berlin *Vossische Zeitung*. Then she turns to analyze our newspaper style, which does not suit the slow-moving German mind:

"Sentences of flat, positive statement (two usually), not one of them particularly comical or original in content, are placed together. Seemingly they are unrelated. Nevertheless, they belong together as beginning and end of an event not really told at all. Mr. Brown's unfortunate oversight is set forth. Then the thread is lost. It runs underground along the stages of progress—frightful explosion, melancholy end of the absent-minded Mr. Brown, remarriage of his widow—and then the thread emerges through the medium of the happy circumstance that the late Brown's clothes fit his successor admirably."

IN this history she thinks there is nothing really humorous at all. "Only by means of a suppression of a considerable and even essential part of the action is an effect of wit or humor attained." And this, she declares, "is a typically American humorous effect." And she proceeds to show how the German would do it better:

"One has but to think of what Wilhelm Busch (Germany's late popular humorist) would have made out of such a series of circumstances. His humor develops itself from stage to stage in a strictly logical series, every single phase of the action set forth and exploited.

"The intensity of the American humorous effect, on the other hand, depends upon the invisible course of events from cause to effect. In this mode of omission and climax can be detected something of the American pace. No doubt the American newspaper style (with the unexampled shock of its head-line compressions) exerts a decisive influence here.

"Mark Twain, the first really great representative American humorist, did not employ this abbreviated style. From this standpoint of technique, he is quite European."

This trick of leaving the actual progress of events to the imagination of the reader, she finds, has quickly made its way from the American comic paper to American literature.

"In 'Gentlemen Prefer Blondes,' by Anita Loos, a masterpiece of satirical social criticism, half of what happens is left untold. Thus: 'Yesterday I invited all my intellectual friends, including Gloria and Dorothy. The gentlemen brought their own alcohol. This morning, altho aided by Lulu, I had a lot of work to get things to rights and heaven alone knows how long it will take us to get the chandeliers hung again.'

"In the case of Ring Lardner, writer of brief American episodes, this literary refinement of effect goes even further. For example: 'Have you seen Miss Halsey's ankles yet?' asked Miss Lyons. 'She has the most exquisite ankles I ever saw. Tyler said lately that when he saw our legs—Miss Halsey's and mine—together, he didn't know which were whose.'

"This is ravishingly said.

"The most delightful thing about it is what is left unsaid. Miss Lyons altogether avoids any mention of her own tender lines. Only the necessity of bringing her own judgment and Tyler's assertion together forces a delightful inference."

MISS LEVINGER next informs her countrymen about the American comic supplements:

"On each of the eight pages will be a different story in some dozen pictures with very brief text and a continuation next

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week—sometimes running on for years. In these tales the humorous effect attained through omission plays an important part."

By way of example the German commentator on American humor cites a comic-story effect in the course of which Mr. A. goes to the house of his dear neighbor Mr. B.

Out of Mr. A.'s mouth flow the words: "I'll find out if good old B. is at home. If so, I'll ask him to let me have back the money I lent him."

In the succeeding picture Mr. A. lies in front of Mr. B.'s door with torn clothes, hat smashed in, and a pair of black eyes.

Text: "He was at home!"

Then, so that no German shall miss the point:

"The result attains an unsurpassed unity of effect, and a reader gains a profounder impression of the nature of Mr. B. than any pictorial treatment of his features could afford.

"From this pictorial series it is but a step to the moving picture, to the screen in its most genuine American form: the grotesque.

"In one of these primitive supplementary program reels, in which so much hitting and hacking takes place, we behold this:

"The lions are loose! They chase the dwellers in a house from room to room. A huge lion has picked out a Negro to pursue. The Negro flies to his bed and hides under a mountain of pillows. But the lion gets on the trail and runs also to the bed. A terrific struggle ensues beneath the pillows.

"All that the spectator is permitted to behold is a cloud of feathers. At last the lion comes forth. He quits the scene with triumphant strut. Then the Negro appears. He wears a long white nightshirt. Wings sprout from his back. He flies with transfigured expression to the window. Away he floats to the empyrean. This is most brilliant moving-picture humor from the American standpoint.

"When it was shown in Germany, not one human being laughed at the picture.

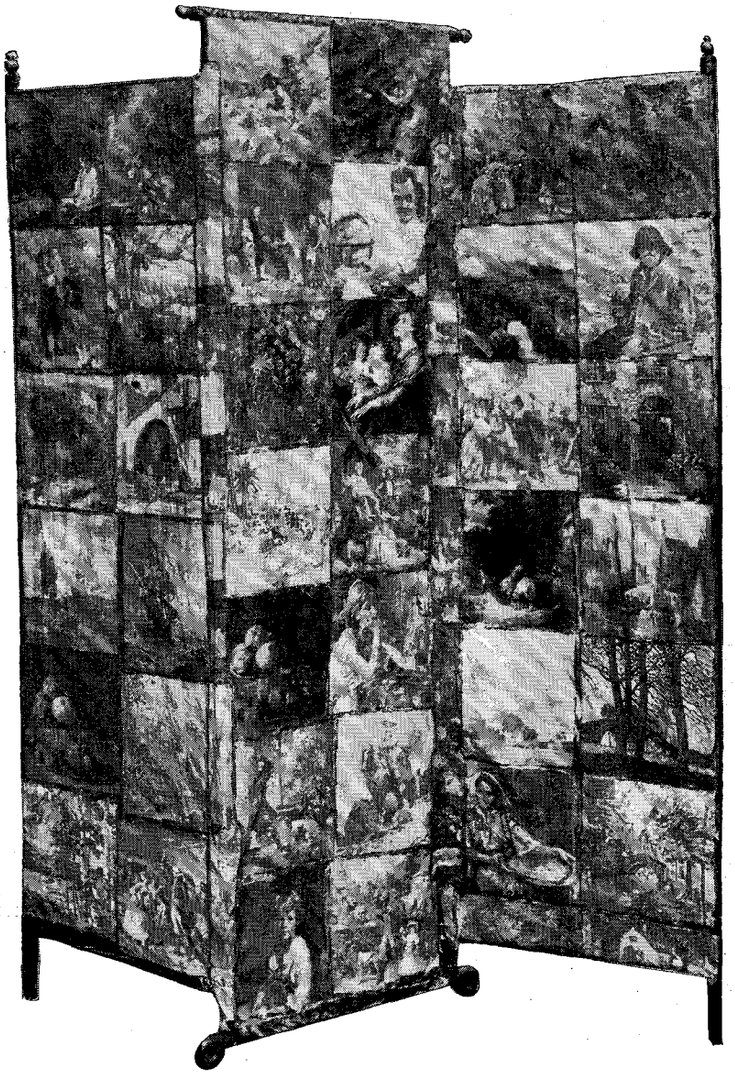
"Many of our German audiences could not understand what had gone before.

"They lacked the American routine sense of the progress of events that would have enabled them to get imaginatively the necessary explanation. Many Germans could not realize that the Negro under the pillows had been worsted, and that he had departed this life to the next in the guise of an angel.

"But those Germans who did grasp this point could not laugh either.

"They saw that here there had been an overstepping of the line at which the European sense of humor ceases to function.

"We can not, even at the height of a roaring farce, laugh at the death of a man with the artless freedom of the Americans—even tho the man who is slain be 'only a Negro.'"



An Art Gallery in the Home

One subscriber thus preserves the "Literary Digest" picture covers.

What to Do With the Cover

A SUBSCRIBER IS SO INTERESTED in the color reproductions of pictures on our covers that she has utilized them for a screen which we reproduce here. It may furnish a suggestion for house decoration for other readers, and thus create a permanent delight for what, in the nature of things, is a passing pleasure.

While on the subject it may be well to remind our readers that this company publishes a "Literary Digest Book of Art" with pages arranged for pasting in the covers, and space opposite for the note on the cover which appears each week.

Our offering this week commends itself for preservation.

Not only the sprightly subject, but the brilliant color of Mr. Fechin's "Lady in Blue" are arresting in their appeal.

Nicolai Fechin was born in Kazan, Russia, November 28, 1881, and became a pupil of the famous Russian painter, Repin.

He won a first prize at the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts in Petrograd, in 1908, and the Proctor Prize at the National Academy of Design, New York, in 1924.

Russian Galleries hold his pictures as well as the Albright Gallery in Buffalo, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Whistler vs. Czarnecki

CHICAGO, abetted by the U. S. Customs department, has put the ban on etchings of nude subjects by Whistler and Zorn. The president of the American Art Dealers' Association says that "Zorn etchings have been coming into the United States for many years without being questioned. I have never seen a Whistler that could be criticized."

The Morning Telegraph (New York) tells the story satirically:

"Anthony Czarnecki, Collector of Customs at Chicago, who knows nothing about art, but who knows what he likes, saw the etchings of these two too much and blushed. He barred them from the country. Franklin Meine, art dealer, went looping to Washington with an appeal and was brought up dizzy by the above ruling.

"Meantime Czarnecki, buffeted by the storm of hilarity aroused by his actions, is groping for an out.

"'The plates have been doctored for suggestive purposes,' he says.

"Meine, a gentleman of repute, denies the possibility. They came from an established German firm and are destined for a good end."

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Methodists to the World

HELL WASN'T MENTIONED ONCE at the Sixth Ecumenical Methodist Conference, Foster Eaton, United Press staff correspondent, tells us in the Atlanta *Journal*.

Nor, for that matter, was much said about the pearly gates and golden streets above.

But the Methodists covered a good deal of nearer territory in their recent decennial gathering in Atlanta.

Meeting on the soil where John Wesley planted the seeds of Methodism in the Western world, they set forth the great problems which they see besetting mankind, and offered the truth of religious experience as the supreme solvent.

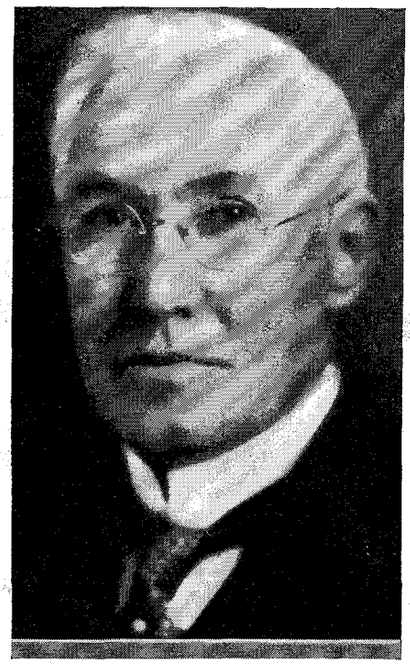
Representing what is perhaps the most militant religious cult in the world, writes that veteran evangelist and newspaper man, Sam W. Small, in the Atlanta *Constitution*, their suggestions of spiritual conquest "were so intensive and uplifting that they are bound to travel over the globe and put a new and powerful enthusiasm in Methodism for the ensuing decade."

As the great gathering declares in its official statement: "We offer to a confused world the authority of religious experience, and know that it has validity and assurance." And the statement continues:

"We have welcomed in these latter days the new interpretations of the universe by learned scientists, who have discarded mechanism, but we are not in the position of suppliants who would ask science whether religion may speak, for religion has sanctions as everlastingly true as the conclusions of science.

"We recognize the fact that theologies of other days were often too harsh to show forth God's mercy, and too logically consistent to be vital. Religion needs to be humanized, but religion ceases to be creative when it discards God and substitutes a glorified humanity.

"As over against this popular philosophy of our day we affirm our belief in a God Who waits to bless, a human soul waiting to be blessed, and Jesus Christ, Who is the living witness of the union of the two."



"It Has Strength, Robustness"

Says Bishop John M. Moore of American Methodism, with its more than 10,000,000 members, 45,000 clergy, and a constituency of 25,000,000.

It is recalled that the first Methodist conference, presided over by John Wesley, had only six members. But 550 Methodist leaders, representing twenty-five countries, gathered in hospitable Atlanta to consider the state of their Church and to lend their massed influence for peace, righteousness, and good-will. They carried back with them to the four corners of the earth the memory of two urgent appeals to work for peace, the one by President Hoover, the other by Vice-President Curtis, himself a Methodist layman.

BUT one opportunity was lost, in the opinion of the Pittsburgh *Christian Advocate*, one of the Methodist organs.

A request of a German delegate, Dr. F. H. Otto Melle, that the Conference prepare a statement absolving Germany of the charge that she alone was guilty of bringing on the World War got no further than a devout prayer that "the guidance and the providence of God will be so disposed as to promote the brotherhood of mankind and permanent peace in the world."

The British delegates, we read, were all for plain speaking. "Their attitude was well put by the Rev. C. Ensor Walters when he declared for a statement calling attention to the fact that Germany could no longer be held 'blood guilty' before the world." Here, says the Pittsburgh *Advocate*, "World Methodism faltered and lost a great chance."

A notable feature of the Conference, emphasized by delegate after delegate, the New York *Christian Advocate* reports, was the impression left by the British representatives. A discriminating American said, we read: "Those men talked as if they actually believed that Jesus Christ was sufficient for every human need, individual, social, racial, and international."

AN interesting summary of the tremendous strength of American Methodism is given in an address to the Conference by Bishop John M. Moore, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, as it appears in *Zion's Herald:*

"Over 10,000,000 church members and a constituency of 25,000,000!

"An itinerant ministry of 45,000, led by seventy-five bishops, preaching to more than 70,000 congregations!

"One hundred and fifty universities and colleges, with plants valued at $130,000,000, and endowment of nearly $150,000,000, with a total student body of 75,000!

"Sixty orphanages, worth $15,000,000, caring for 6,500 homeless children!

"Ninety hospitals that cost $65,000,000, serving, every year, 325,000 patients!

"Sixteen publishing houses, doing an annual business of more than $8,000,000!

"That is American Methodism, and its combined task. It has strength, robustness, energy, and movement. Its mission is human service with divine end, and in the language of its founder, 'to reform the continent and to spread Scriptural holiness over these lands.'"

The climax of the ten days' session came when the Conference presented its findings and President Hoover in a nation-wide broadcast from the White House addrest the great gathering.

Appealing to Methodism to cooperate in helping overcome the present depression and the evils of crime and lawlessness, and stressing the importance of spiritual values in a day of distorted emphasis upon the materialities of life, President Hoover came out in what is termed the strongest denunciation of war he has yet made in any public utterance:

"It seems strange and incredible that after all the centuries of man's experience with war, we still have to discuss it and to argue against it.

"It seems even more strange that with all the crushing burdens resting upon every nation because of wars, we still make progress against them at snail's pace.

"The nations groan under taxation, people of all lands suffer daily from economic depression, governments are perplexed—and yet we go on using incalculable sums in evident dread of those that may come upon us.

"A new mind must be made in the world on this subject; a new spirit must be created within the nations and between the nations. And I appeal to you as representatives of Methodists everywhere to unite with all other lovers of good-will and followers of the Prince of Peace for the making of human brotherhood, in which the peace of God shall prevail in the lives of men.

"I sincerely thank you for this privilege of speaking to you, and wish you all the richest blessings of earth and heaven."

"Help us again," echoed Vice-President Curtis in a personal address, "to believe universally that the precepts of Christ are

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still the true and only guide-posts here on earth, for the children of God, that the Sermon on the Mount was not preached in vain."

ONE of the most significant steps of the Conference was the vote to form an Ecumenical Methodist Council to function between the decennial sessions of the parent body. The Council is to consist of seventy members, twenty-six from the Eastern Section—Europe and Asia—and forty-four from the Western Section—the American continents. The purposes of the Council are to develop closer cooperation among Methodist bodies; promote social, moral, and spiritual uplift; issue annually an address on world Methodism. Provision is made that the two sections hold independent annual meetings.

Summarizing the pronouncements of the Conference, the delegates recorded themselves as unalterably opposed to war, and strongly urged "education for peace" and a readjustment of war debts.

As to disarmament, the Conference declared that the churches represented ought to keep before their citizens the solemn obligation to disarm which was assured by each of the Allied nations when Germany was forced to lay down her arms.

"It is difficult," said the Conference, "to see how any nation which forever renounces war as a national policy can deny citizenship to any man, otherwise fit, who must inquire of God and his conscience whether a war is just before he will take up arms."

THE importance of reunion was emphasized, the Conference using the fact that the Methodisms of England are uniting next year as an exhortation for renewed efforts to the same end in the United States.

On marriage and divorce the Conference said, in substance:

"We hear much in these days about full sex experience and trial marriages. The Church can never meet its full responsibility by opposing divorce; it may even advocate uniform divorce laws in all sections of a nation and still fall short of its obligation.

"The Church must give full instruction to its youth as to the beauty of love and the sanctity of marriage."

On the industrial and economic order the Conference said: "Methodism is forever interested in a Christian social order. Tho it may not have a definite economic and political program, Methodism must lend its influence to every proposal of human betterment."

Emphasis is laid on the "new spirit of bitterness toward the white race," on which the Conference said gravely:

"We are called upon to refrain from contempt of the old faiths of Asia, and we must take an understanding and generous attitude toward them.

"At the foot of the Savior's Cross let us purge our souls of all racial arrogance, all contempt of other races and peoples, all desire of any spiritual or other domination over men, and go forward to minister humbly and loyally to all men who need Him."

Shall the Home Be Abolished?

HE HOPES TO GET BACK TO ENGLAND in time to set up his children's Christmas-tree.

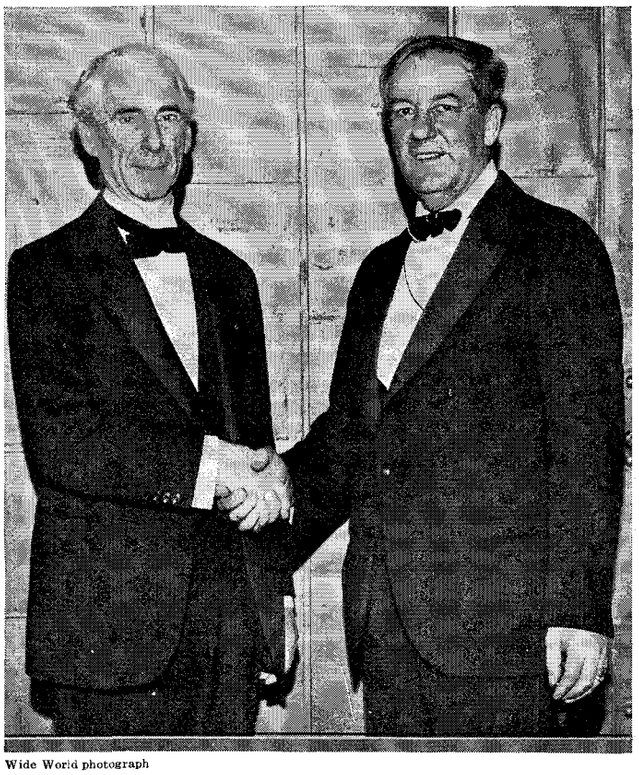
But, illogically enough, if he had his way, Bertrand Russell wouldn't have to hurry home for his children's sake.

The State would be attending to his parental duties and acting as Santa Claus for his children.

For the English mathematician and philosopher believes that the State would make a better mother for the little Russell children than Mrs. Russell.

In a recent debate in New York with Sherwood Anderson, novelist and editor, noted in the metropolitan press, Mr. Russell declared that children require physical care and freedom rather than affection, and that "most love is a prison, mother love not the least so."

Maternal solicitude, he said, is designed by nature to be adequate for a family of ten, and becomes excessive when concentrated upon one or two, the usual number of children in a modern family, with the result that the children become timid and are oppresst by the sense of being constantly under observation. Wherever the home life of the parents is not happy, he maintained, children are liable to suffer from nervous disorders as a result of the emotional conflicts produced. "The desire of many adults to obtain from children an affection with an adult, emotional intensity is," he said, "without intention, cruel and harmful. Practical help without emotional intensity is more easily given by teachers than by parents, and it is this that children need."



Wide World photograph

Is Mother Love a Menace?

Bertrand Russell (left) says it is; but Sherwood Anderson (right) defends home and family life before an applauding audience.

Mr. Russell talked about mother and father complexes, too, tho he admitted they "have become so much of a jargon one is almost afraid to mention them." Further on he said, "I don't think psychoanalysis would ever have been invented if the old, large families had remained."

He sat down, a neat little figure, we read, with white hair flowing back from a face which always seems to wear an expression of amused surprize. He doesn't look the picture of an earl, tho he carries the title; and he is generally "mistered" in the press.

MR. ANDERSON, in reply, said he does not believe that mathematics and logical abstractions can be applied successfully to the human race.

"I would back a mother against the average scientist or school-teacher," said the novelist earnestly. "Our cigarets, food, clothes, and thoughts are already machine made. There is no reason why this principle should be carried over to its logical conclusion of standardizing children." He argues that teachers develop faults fully as bad as those to be found in mothers. He believes, too, that "some of the disadvantages which the Freudians see in having a mother are exaggerated, and that others do not exist."

Mr. Anderson, tho a radical in literature and in his economic

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beliefs, is very earnest in advocating family life. He pounded the reading desk to send home his points, and piously damned those scientists and eugenists who would substitute an incubator for the cradle.

"This idea of Mr. Russell's that we must all live regimental lives in narrow quarters in industrial cities, eating synthetic food and making synthetic marriages controlled by scientists is too much," he declared. "There are plenty of women anxious to be mothers, not sentimentally, but in the real sense, and willing to learn. I would trust them as far as I would the average scientist or the average schoolteacher." And the audience showed by their applause that they agreed with him.

THE debate was, of course, purely academic. The little Russells are in no danger of being packed off to some State stock farm, thence to be shipped out later as guaranteed, first-class products. Mr. Russell will be home in time for the Christmas-tree, and it is probable that Mrs. Russell, whose views are kindred to those of her husband on some things at least, will help decorate it.

Mr. Russell does not speak by the book, we are reminded by the Washington *Post*. He was an orphan at three. "As a result of long years of wasted excursions in speculative sociology, he has apparently lost sight of actual human values," says *The Post*, "and now favors the cultivation of a race of automatons." Dismissing him as a philosopher, *The Post* suggests that Mr. Russell "sit down some day and try to calculate what the influence of home and children has been upon himself."

LEAVING out the biological arguments for the maintenance of home and family life, the Philadelphia *Record* disposes of Mr. Russell's case by ridiculing the idea of the State—"a collection of politicians and job-hunters"—as a mother. "The failure of State reformatories alone," it says, "should be significant."

Another to call attention to the long history of the family and the failure, so far, to find a working substitute for it, is the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*. It notes that the modern American family is obliged to struggle for existence against a host of good intentions, whose promoters are determined to improve the family, modify it or eliminate it altogether. "And yet the family was invented a long while ago, and none of its kindliest critics has done much to suggest a sound alternative. They can not change the fundamental fact that it consists of parents who are no better than they should be and children who are no worse than should be expected under the circumstances."

Objections have been made to the biological basis of family life, but no one knows at the moment of a better one, "not even Bertrand Russell, tho he knows nearly everything."

Thanksgiving

By Charles Hanson Towne

LORD, life is good!
When the first crocus lifts its golden cup,
To drink the beauty up,
And the pink hyacinth smiles in its green bed,
And the long winter is dead,
Ah! life is good,
And even my poor, frail heart has understood.

Then, when the Maytime turns
To summer, and on every hill there burns
The loveliness that seems too great to bear:
Lush grass, ripe fruit, and the blue noons that stare
On earth and sea,
Suddenly comes to me
The wonder in this world; while over my house
Hang the green heavy boughs;
And under me starred meadows; and round about
Bees with their happy murmur, and the thin shout
Of insects speeding over broken walls.
Oh, how the glory falls!
Lord, life is good!

And life is good when autumn's tapestries
Hang on the walls of the hills,
And there is a tang in the breeze,
And a roar in the rills.
And when the first snow shakes the trembling boughs,
And makes the world a tremulous white house,
I lean to look with wonder, lest I miss
Some of the beauty, as winter's delicate kiss
Touches the roadways with a lover's bliss.

Give thanks, O heart, O soul,
As the bright year doth roll
To a perfect end, like a perfect scroll.
Lord, Life is good!

—*Woman's Home Companion, New York.*

Denominational Colors Still Fly

METHODISTS AND PRESBYTERIANS will continue to travel in separate caravans.

But they will remain friendly and willing to help each other along the road.

Meantime they may bring together their own respective divisions.

Which is to say that, after a number of conferences, the Joint Commission on Presbyterian and Methodist Unification have agreed to discontinue negotiations, at least for the present, and have parted with expressions of good-will and promises of cooperation. Negotiations will rest until further developments.

One of their journals, the Cincinnati *Christian Advocate* (Methodist), feels that it was all just a good gesture worthy of high-minded Protestant brethren. "There is no special reason why these two great trunk-line Protestant denominations should unite," it says. "They are so different in organization and administration that it is a question whether they could ever get together. The necessity for it does not appear." Rather:

"The real thing that should be done is to get like bodies in faith and church government together.

"Why should not all the different bodies of the Presbyterians get together before they turn to us with any proposals? They have not done so; rather we went to them.

"Why should not all the Methodist bodies get together before they go offering proposals of union with other Protestant communions? There are nearly a score of different Methodist bodies. The two Episcopal Methodisms should get together and then invite into that union a whole brood of progeny that has appeared in the Methodist nest.

"The great trouble with this unification proposition is that it always begins at the top instead of at the bottom. You can never unite by uniting the great trunk lines.

"If you seek to reduce a great system, do so by withdrawing life from the small twigs and branches that grow out from the great trunk supports.

"There are many small Protestant bodies in America that have not grown perceptibly in years. All they have done is to maintain themselves. This frequently has been done by intensification of denominational loyalty with some degree of bigotry and narrowness, which, when mentioned, brings an embarrassment that almost infuriates them. They are so tense in feeling that if any one should mention such a thing they would collapse for fear they should lose their identity."

ON the other hand, the Providence *Journal* reminds us, "many individual churches of different policy and polity have united with good results; and at no long intervals national church bodies are nowadays joining forces, persuaded thereto by the overbalancing advantages of union."

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CURRENT POETRY

UNSOLICITED CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS DEPARTMENT CAN NOT BE RETURNED. UNPUBLISHED POETRY UNAVAILABLE

A SONG for the day, if one has the heart to sing it. In *The Survey Graphic* (New York):

LAVENDER AND SNOW

By Ethel Romig Fuller

"Lavender bags,
Would you care to buy?"
Her plea on the wind,
A broken cry;
Her skirt, ice-carven
To her thigh.

"Lavender bags,
Three for a quarter—"
Strange merchandise
For winter barter!

Lavender bags
Tinseled with sleet;
Lavender . . . snow,
A quaint conceit—
Breathe on your fingers,
Stamp your feet!

Peddling lavender
Zero weather—
A girl must keep body
And soul together.

THE recent English elections called forth serious as well as satirical expression from English poets. This one, that might be pondered anywhere when elections occur, appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* (London):

SUFFRAGE APPEAL TO YOUNG ELECTORS

By Eden Phillpotts

O you who hold a land ideal
Must ever democratic be,
Weigh your potentiality
Before this paramount appeal and thankfully fulfil
The heritage that implicates your will.

Enrolled, endowed, full-armed you stand
Beneath the challenge of the hour,
With equal soul and strength and pow'r,
With equal weapons in your hand,
For, in this Realm and State,
No stroke than you's may carry greater weight.

No gift exceeds your proper gift;
No grain more precious than your own
Shall in the fields of hope be sown,
Without their countless sands
Vanished our steadfast, ocean-facing strands.

Dream not your brother's punctual pact
Shall make secure the victory:
So much the less will triumph be
By each indign, defaulting act.
No man or woman sane
Forgoes this solemn rite without a stain.

Affirm your mind above all cost
Of futile self; remember well
Neglect rings many a passing bell
Of grace once lost for ever lost;
And those who watch you fall
Would speed democracy beyond recall.

No neutrals here; no golden mean,
While, one at heart, a people trust
To save their kingdom from the dust.
No common wash-pot makes us clean,
And you, who hold your might,
But sacrifice to chaos and to night.

From sloth and leaden apathy;
From duty shirked and coward disgrace;
From palsied will in danger's face;
From shame at poisoned memory
Of what you failed to do,
May honour, blood and breed deliver you.

TREES have made poems famous, and poets seem never weary of celebrating them. In *The Carillon* (Washington) is one to remember:

DRUSILLA

By Theodosia Garrison

Whene'er I have a happiness
I cry its worth aloud
And kindly folk are glad—no less—
To see me gay and proud.
But when I have a sorrow drop
Its dragging weight on me,
I climb to Deerlick Mountain top
And tell it to a tree.

The wise old trees, the strong old trees
That I have known for years
They let me kneel against their knees,
They soothe away my tears.
And when again I come to town
It seems a foolish thing
To weep because no rose-sprigged gown
Is mine to greet the Spring,

Or that my mother chides me sore
Because I needs must run
To hear a singer at the door
Before the chores are done.

The valley lads are silly folk
For all their wooing ways;
They care for naught but mirth and joke
And dancing holidays.
The mountain lads have earnest eyes.
How strange if one should be
As strong, as wonderful and wise
As is a mountain tree!

THE poet retorts on one who has put out his sun—perhaps a reviewer. From *The Nation* (New York):

THE DRY HEART

By Alan Porter

When the sun passed, who poured around
Comfort over the barren ground,
At whose divine and peaceable gaze
Earth flowered in beauty and shone with praise,
When death had stolen the brave sun
The land was bitterly alone.

And I can swear—for it is I
Whose blooms unseasonably die,
Whose garth is perishing with frost,
Whose ancient, loving sun is lost—
I swear the sun is blood-bereft
And weeps for the dear land he left.

I saw the phantom of the sun,
The white, the cold, the miserable,
The empty phantom of the sun.
This phantom, evil and malign,
The husk and absence of the sun,
The accurst and the inconstant moon,
Told me a glozing and a lie.

This phantom told me that the sun
Was never wedded to my soil
But spread an equal and bright love
On other lands; and other lands
Flower in the sun and laugh with flowers.

I know this fable is a lie.
The round and miserable disk,
The empty moon is the sun's ghost:
The sun is dead.
I see it like a heart grown dry:
The sun is dead.
If it is cold in this gray land
And if the moon above is cold,
If all the Arctic of the sky
Looks down on the Antarctic earth,
I know the sun himself is dead
And nothing of the ancient warmth
Stirs in the dying universe.

THE satirist of *The New Statesman and Nation* (London) dreams of an ideal candidate:

A VOTER'S VISION

By MacFlecknoe

I dreamed last night of a candidate
Who started his address
With a clear account of our national state
And the international mess;
He hadn't a slogan to aid his cause
Or a scapegoat to upbraid,
But he showed that he understood the laws
Of currency and trade.

He talked of bank-rates, and loans, and gold,
And he made the matter plain;
He held us spell-bound the while he told
Why the war-debts proved our bane;
He'd studied the problems of tax and rent
And the "economic man";
He knew what "invisible exports" meant
And he'd heard of the "Hoover Plan."

He never hedged and he never lied,
Though we heckled him good and hard,
As he showed how the pound might stand or slide
As the League was made or marred. . . .
And a silly nightmare it seems, because
When I glanced through my shorthand note,
I forgot to ask what his Party was
Ere giving the man my vote.

IN the antipodes the political figure runs true to type as elsewhere, so the Sydney *Bulletin* assures us:

A PUBLIC MAN

By Arnold Wall

He drones the third-hand platitudes as if he's bought them new,
He's full of stuffy virtues as an old merino ewe:
He sits the rail, bows to the storm, and keeps "an open mind,"
And he is where he is because of pushes from behind.

ONCE we wrote the obituary of The London *Saturday Review*, but tho based on report, it was happily untrue. The *Saturday* is reborn to an even more vigorous life, and we search its pages for its accustomed good verse, of which the following is a sample. Its own swan song is nowhere in sight:

SWAN SONG

By Irene Haugh

Once I heard it said a swan was seen
Pass alone at night along the Liffey,
Pass like a white streak from beneath the bridge
When night and quiet were upon the city.

When gulls and curlews were at rest you went
Alone. On what dark journey did you go
Leaving all companions, to unknown
Ways in the rain and against the river's flow?

Was it, Swan, because you bore a song
Swelling in your long white throat, you passed
Happily hurrying upwards toward the valley;
Was it thus to sing and sing at last?

And tired to death to lean your wings against
A slimy wall, to sing in this strangest mood,
To droop down as a dancer does and fall,
To die in ecstasy and solitude?

I heard it said from darkness into dark
You came and went, and as a vision flew
Suddenly and swiftly though the mind of One
Who stared, guessing and making question on you.

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"Marchy" Schwartz and Notre Dame's Victory March

THEY CALL HIM "MARCHY," that great player of the grand old gridiron game, who always comes through in a crisis.

And that's all right, too, for it is Marchy who is always in the van of Notre Dame's victory marches.

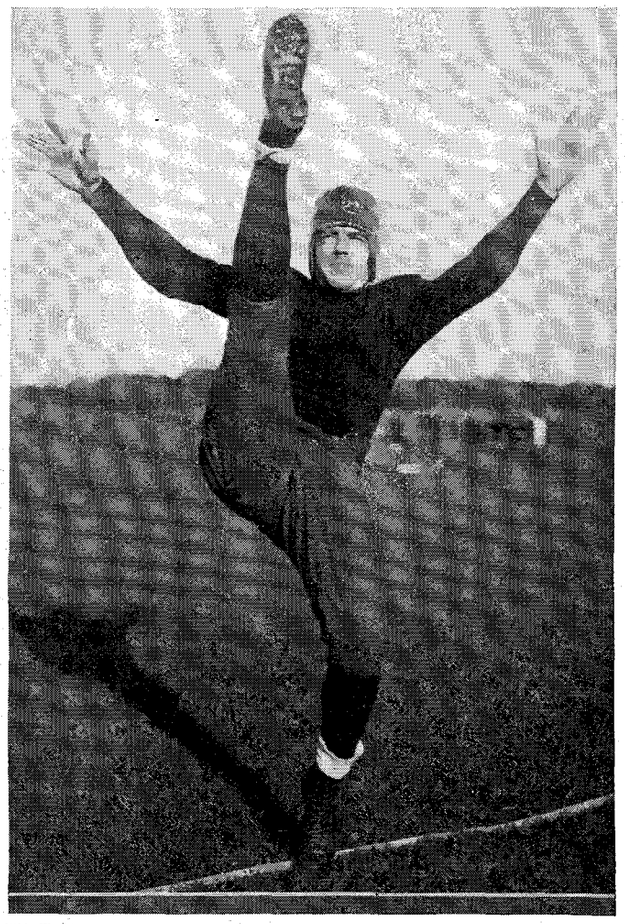
See him take the ball on a delayed buck and smash the Quaker rampart through his own right tackle for sixteen yards and a touch-down.

On another day, see him break away for one long dash after another, spilling through a hole at tackle, shaking off two men and racing fifty-eight yards down the side-line for a touch-down. And this, the Associated Press adds, in its account of the Notre Dame-Carnegie game, was "only one of a dozen sensational sprints by the slippery half-back," who "gained a total of 188 yards in twenty-three attempts."

In a word, the one and only Mr. Marchmont Schwartz of Notre Dame.

Just as the big team from South Bend seems to dominate American football, so Schwartz seems to dominate his team. That is, if any one person can be said to dominate a squad that includes such stars as Koken, Leahy, Jaskwhich, and Sheeketski.

Schwartz, his team-mates, and Heartly "Hunk" Anderson, their coach, are the answer to one of the big questions of the football world. Upon the tragic death of Knute Rockne, who built up the team, it was at once asked how Notre Dame would fare on the gridiron deprived of the guidance of that by now almost legendary figure. But without him the South Benders seem able to carry on with no diminution of glory. Anderson is a wizard worthy to wield Rockne's magic wand. The 1931 squad is as good as (if not better than) its predecessors of 1929 and 1930. The recent 20 to 0 defeat of Navy was Notre Dame's twenty-fifth consecutive victory. The team has not been defeated since 1928. The squad is so good, in a word, that it has been suggested in the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* that the first and second teams should play for the national championship.



Wide World

He's All Wire and Rubber

RETURNING to the main topic of interest, Schwartz is a new Carideo, according to the acclaiming critics.

"Money-player" they call him in the press-boxes, and shake admiring heads, Harry A. Sylvester writes in the New York *Evening Post*. "Money-player" they call him where coaches gather and fan long into the night. "Money-player" they call him on the broad quadrangle beneath the Golden Dome of Notre Dame.

What is a money-player? the writer asks as he continues:

The broad Americanism is a peculiarly descriptive phrase. It means an athlete who comes through at a critical time, when the stakes are high, when marbles are being played for keeps.

Time and again Schwartz has proved more than merely versatile. Army, Pittsburgh, Southern California, Northwestern, all know why they call him money-player.

He is only mediocre against a mediocre team. He ran on the edge of his soles to beat Army in the mire of Soldier Field last fall. He came through against Northwestern in the last moments of that bitter fight in 1930.

The rain drove parallel to the ground this year and blew in his eyes as he stood behind his own goal-line against Northwestern and punted fifty yards.

"I never thought he could punt," they said in the press-box.

He was a stripling in St. Stanislaus School at Bay St. Louis, Louisiana, and his parents would not let him play football. Foster Commagere, who was coach, came to his home, told his parents he thought their son could be a good football player.

They couldn't see it that way; he would get hurt. After a long time, they consented to let him play, with the provision that the first time he was hurt he would have to quit.

He has never been injured. He was knocked out in the Pitt game this year, and arose to pass to a score a few plays later. Money-player.

And yet he is not big, as football players go. He stands a scant five feet ten inches, his weight fluctuates in the light 160's. He is a bit slim.

There is nothing he can not do in a football game. This came about gradually. He was the best passer at Notre Dame when he was a freshman. Commagere had seen to that. But no one noticed him for anything else.

Rockne, perhaps.

An upper classman said the boy one day would be All-America, and was laughed at.

Elder was graduated. There was no great running back.

Marchmont Schwartz became the great running back.

Carideo was graduated. There was no great kicker this year.

Marchmont Schwartz became the kicker.

Two years of prep-school football was all he had before entering college. He could run pretty well when he came to Notre Dame. Well, he had run a little in prep school. Used to go forty or fifty yards and then would be dragged down from behind. He was not fast.

He is not old as All-Americas go. He is twenty-two. He is very modest. He never went with a girl; doesn't now; doesn't care if he ever does. And the fan mail comes in bunches.

He isn't the worst-looking boy in the world. Rather handsome, in fact. There were six telegrams under his door after one game.

He lives alone in old Corby Hall, next to the twin lakes at Notre Dame. There were five crates of apples on the floor of the room. Some one in Seattle whom he had never seen had sent them. He shouldered one; he was taking it down to "Hunk" Anderson's home.

An invitation from a prominent Chicagoan to the Mastro-Battalino fight, and an affair after it lay on his desk. He didn't

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The Gifts You Get

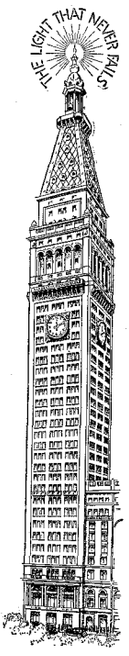
SOON you will be busy writing letters and paying visits, trying to thank everyone who has sent you a present, careful not to forget anyone.

But because they weren't addressed to you personally and sent by mail or express, perhaps you have forgotten to acknowledge some of the priceless gifts you have received.

Think for a minute of the welfare organizations that have been giving you their time, their training and ability, devoting their every effort to make you, your family and your neighbors safer and happier.

The Red Cross and other great organizations fed the hungry and nursed the sick while you remained comfortably at home—their gift to you of hours of leisure.

Volunteer members of national and local associations found children who were suffering from tuberculosis, sent them to camps and sanatoria to recover—giving your children extra protection from exposure.



Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders gave up their holidays to teach clean living by word and example—a gift of better companionship for your children.

Big Brothers sat in stuffy court rooms to rescue waifs and strays who did not have home background to guide them—a gift of future good citizenship to your community.

You will probably never meet, nor be able to thank, the doctors and scientists who have waged campaigns to make it increasingly unlikely that you and yours should ever contract smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid fever or other communicable disease. In their laboratories they are searching for means to prevent premature death from cancer or heart disease. Magnificent gifts to you of health—perhaps life itself.

But you do know some of the great volunteer organizations which work for you continuously and ask your good will and support. At this season will you not say "thank you" to two of them by wearing a Red Cross button and by using Christmas Seals?

METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

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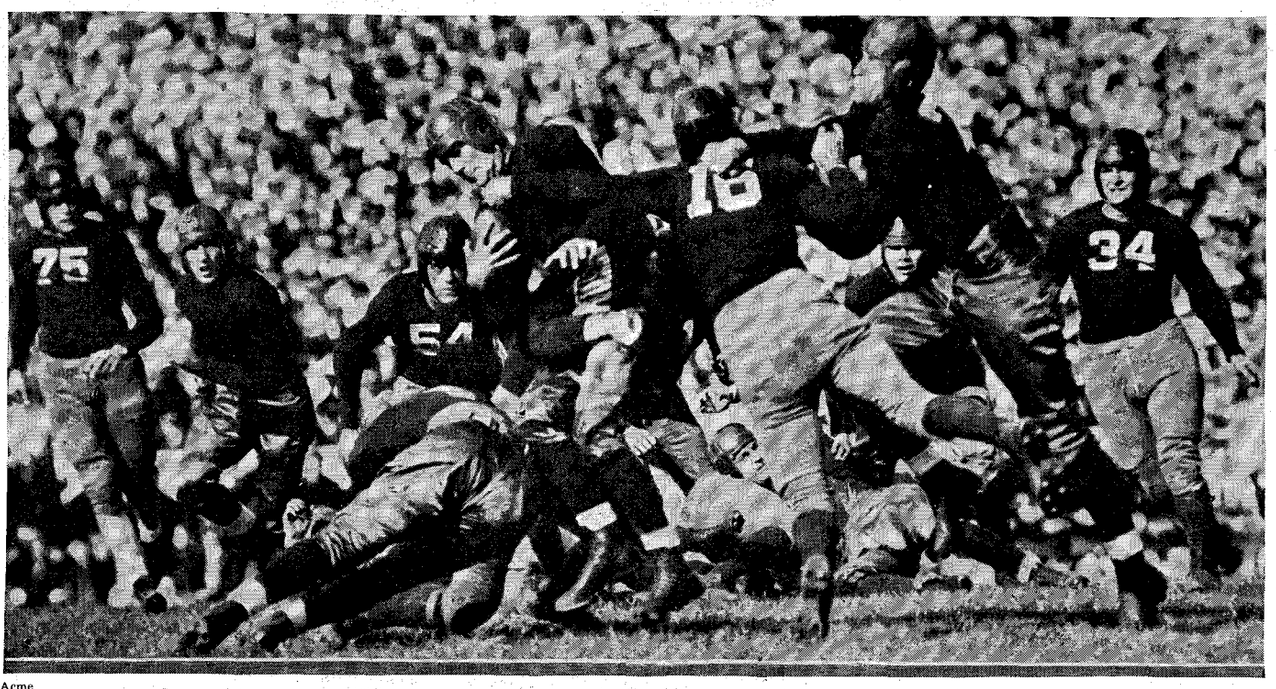


Acme

A Break for the "Irish." That's Schwartz With the Ball. He's Cutting Through Right Tackle

know what people expected of him. If he went to that he'd lose a lot of sleep. They just had no consideration for the team or the players. If they really liked him, they wouldn't be asking them all over the Middle West during the season. He shook his head.

But it is one characteristic of Notre Dame football that it specializes in team-work, rather than individual stars. How well in unison the eleven functions was demonstrated in the recent 49 to 0 rout of Pennsylvania. In that game, according to Harvey Woodruff in the Chicago *Tribune:*

Seven different players scored the seven touch-downs.

Four different players place-kicked the seven points after touch-down, almost a record in itself.

On several of those touch-down runs, blocking was so perfect, the ball-carrier ran unmolested, and finished standing up. Then just to show forward-passing was not a forgotten art, long heaves were used for counts against a tired, discouraged, but game Quaker outfit.

The Irish first string counted three times in the first half. The second-stringers finished the second period and played through until replaced by those still farther down the football social scale.

Second-string players added two more touch-downs, and the third-stringers counted the final two.

The man who directs this perfect functioning, "Hunk" Anderson, has, as Rockne's successor, as difficult a job as any on the gridiron. But he is producing results that, according to the Associated Press, amaze observers both at Notre Dame and everywhere else. Thus:

The Ramblers, clicking off yards at the rate of better than one-fifth of a mile a game in their rush to new fame and still another undefeated record, have convinced even the most dubious that a new master of football has arrived.

The Notre Dame touch-down manufacturing system is the same to-day as in the Rockne era, but the make-up of the coaches is strikingly different. Unlike the old master of the Ramblers, Anderson is quiet on and off the field. He seldom speaks, but when he does, the touch-down makers go through their tricks, and the results have been astonishing.

Before the spectacle of Notre Dame football perfection most observers throw up their hands in amazement. For example, there was the Pennsylvania alumnus with whom Ed Pollock of the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* talked during their return from the Pennsylvania slaughter. Mr. Pollock records the colloquy in his *Public Ledger* column. We read:

"Son," he said, "they're too good. Too good and too tough. I thought I'd never live to see the day when Pennsylvania would lose consecutive years to the same team by such scores as we did in the Notre Dame games this year and last."

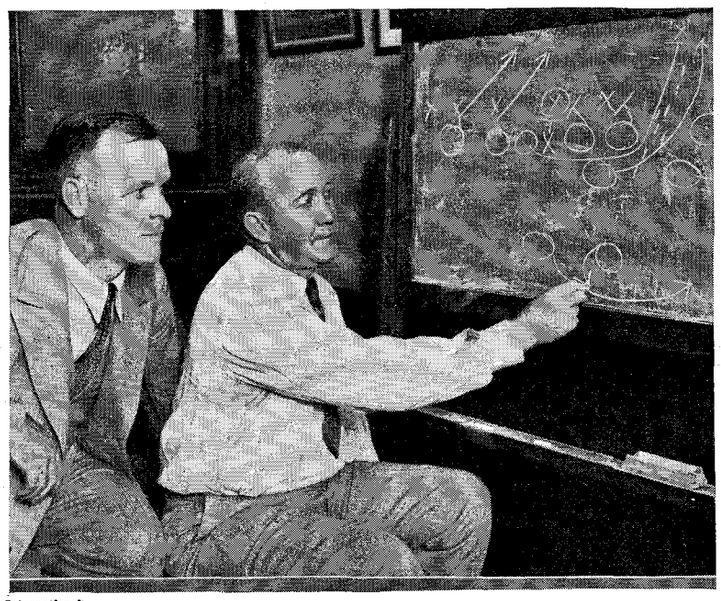
More long drafts were sucked through the black tobacco as the veteran pondered on the 60-20 triumph of the Irish last season and the 49-0 victory this year.

"Forty-nine to nothing," he said in a whisper, as if talking to himself. Then aloud he added:

"I never thought I'd see two such great teams."

"You mean the 1930 and the 1931 Notre Dame teams?" I inquired.

"No, I don't," he retorted rather sharply. "I mean the two teams Hunk Anderson has this year. He hasn't one team. He has two teams. There's more natural ability on either of those teams than there is on our whole squad. I can't get over Koken. Just think, that a football player as good as he is has to be classified as a substitute! He'd make any other college team in the country, and so would Leahy, another substitute."



International

The Old Master and His Destined Successor

A rare view of Heartly "Hunk" Anderson absorbing Knute Rockne's gridiron wisdom to carry on in future years.

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Dope for Babe Ruth Note Books

THE pitcher toed the slab. The one runner on the bases was set and ready to finish his circuit. The mighty Babe Ruth was at bat.

The ball, F. C. Lane tells us in *Baseball Magazine*, "swept over the plate. Babe caught it with his characteristic lunge and drove it far away for his 600th homer."

Yes, Mr. Lane reminds us, Babe has passed the 600 mark. The historic event took place last summer, and every fan, we assume, knows about it. But it makes a convenient springboard from which to plunge into a sea of interesting data on the what, when, where, and how of the 600. Leonard Gettelson compiled the figures cited by Mr. Lane. The clubs against which Babe has hit his homers, the innings, the cities, and the months in which he has hit them—these and many other figures are presented by the writer, who says by way of introduction:

Babe Ruth long ago blazed a trail into an unexplored territory of herculean feats.

He long ago taught the baseball world that one seeming impossibility was within his reach. He taught others the trick.

Hornsby, Lou Gehrig, Cy Williams, and, best of all, Hack Wilson, tho far behind Babe Ruth, have also climbed home-run heights that would once have been considered inaccessible.

But Ruth, the pioneer, the worker of miracles, has left all competitors far behind. He alone of all the players that have ever lived has shown himself capable of driving out six hundred homers. It is doubtful if any one of the vast army of spectators who have watched Babe make some of these circuit clouts will ever live long enough to see his like again.

THE statistician "has compiled some interesting dope on Babe's 600 homers," Mr. Lane tells us as we read on:

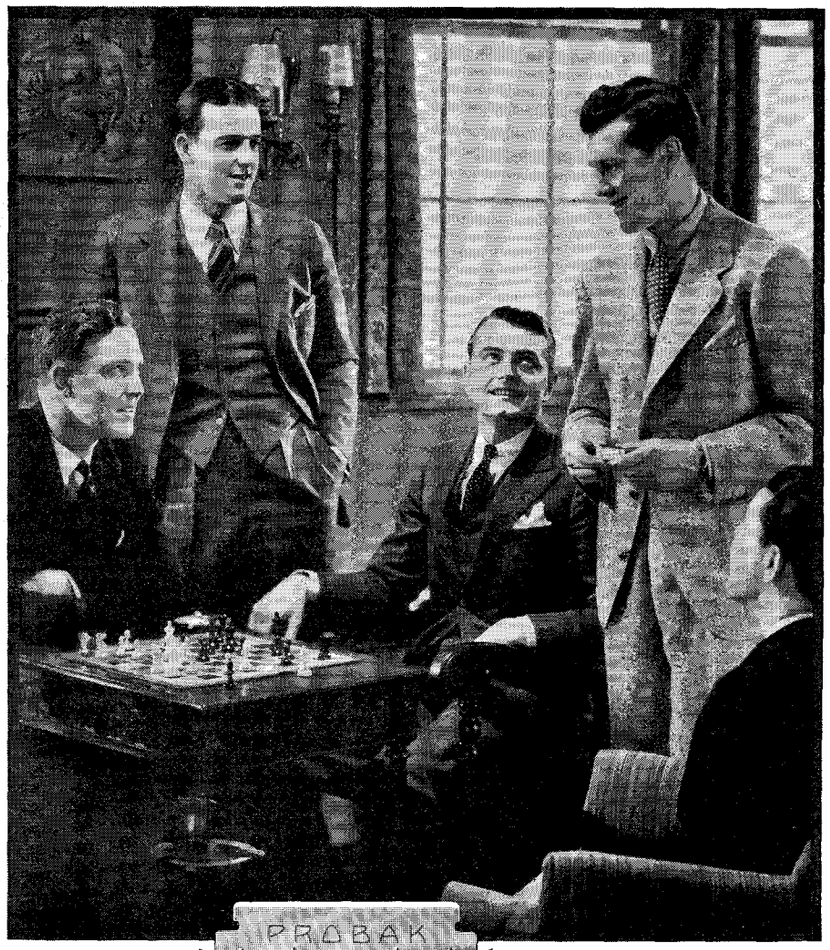
Perhaps the most interesting feature of the great record is the fact that Babe was in the big leagues four seasons before he showed any undue proclivities in circuit clouts. To be sure, he was a pitcher, appeared in relatively few games, and was not expected to hit. These years were an undoubted handicap as they delayed Babe's star act, for they saw him make but nine home runs. In his fifth season he made eleven. Five years for twenty homers!

Then came the branching out, the coming of the home-run hero into his own. In 1919 he made twenty-nine, shattered a record, and taught the world to expect unusual things from him. It has been expecting such things ever since.

In one season Babe touched the high-water mark with sixty homers. In three other years he made over fifty. In five others forty or more. He broke the forty mark this season also with forty-six.

World Series' homers do not count in Ruth's prodigious score. Some of his finest clouting has occurred in those great games. Twice, at least he dominated the contest and won almost single-handed. But we are now considering only major-league games played in the active season.

Once only in all those seasons, Babe made three homers in a single game. That was because pitchers refused to pitch to him. Fifty-eight times he made two homers



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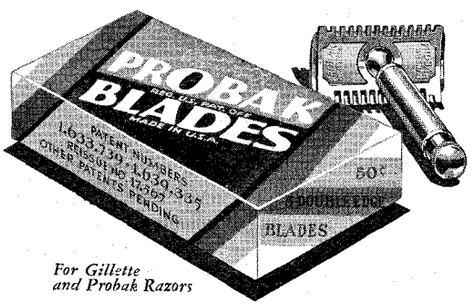

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★

The way to the store
around the corner

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in a contest. The other four hundred and eighty-one homers were feature events of single games.

More than half the time when Babe has driven the ball into foreign territory there have been one or more runners on the bases. Two hundred and eight times there has been one runner, eighty-four times two runners, fourteen times the bases have been crowded when Babe's homer went zooming into the distance.

A rumor persists that Babe hits homers more frequently on the New York grounds. In fact, the statement has been widely credited that the Yankee Stadium was partially designed to favor Babe's star act.

Statistics, however, show that Babe has hit fully as many homers on the road as he has ever done at home. Two hundred and eighty-two homers were made at New York. For several years Babe was at Boston, which was then his home town, but he did not make so many homers there.

Roughly, half the time he has hit for the circuit, he has been a visitor in a strange park. Outside New York, Babe has made more homers at Philadelphia than anywhere else, fifty-seven. He has made fewer at Washington than elsewhere, twenty-seven.

BABE has been most successful against Detroit pitchers, the account runs on. "He has nicked them for 108 homers. Philadelphia comes second with eighty-nine, St. Louis and Chicago are tied with eighty-four." Continuing:

Our statistician has taken the trouble to figure out the innings in which Ruth hit his homers. The first inning appears to be his favorite, with 106 homers. The second inning is weak, for Ruth seldom comes up in that inning. The third is second best with eighty-three. Forty-eight homers he has made in the ninth inning, fifteen in extra innings. Needless to say, those extra inning homers have doubtless clinched the victory.

Ruth appears to be a hot-weather hitter. July is his favorite month for making homers, with 126. June is second best with 121. August finds a gradual dwindling in the total. And September has seen Babe make but ninety-six home runs.

Once upon a time Babe was benched because a left-handed pitcher was in the box. That was long ago, at Boston, before he had shown the world what he could do. Since that time he has shown it plenty. And one commonly accepted baseball truism he has jarred to its foundation, namely, that a left-handed pitcher can hold a left-handed batter in check.

The records show that Babe has made 192 home runs against left-handed pitchers, nearly one-third of all the homers he has hit. It's rather a safe bet that the Yankees or the Red Sox either, when Babe was a member of that club, didn't face left-handed pitching a third of the time. Babe has evidently hit left-handers for home runs fully as often in proportion as he has nicked right-handers. His war club knows no favorites.

Six hundred homers! There are many major leaguers who never made 600 safe hits. There are many more who never made 600 extra base-hits. But 600 homers! How many homers will Babe make before he plays his last big-league contest? Seven hundred? That's a good bet, and maybe many more. Let us hope so. For the man who can write baseball history in such characters of fire as Babe Ruth has done, deserves universal encouragement.

Rentner's Threat to the Laurels of Red Grange

ONCE it was the Galloping Ghost. But now it's the Flying Dutchman who keeps 'em on the edge of their seats

In fewer words—Ernest Rentner of Northwestern's mighty backfield, who, Francis J. Powers asserts in a Consolidated Press Association dispatch, "is the greatest individual ground gainer Mid-Western football has produced since the days of Red Grange."

One thousand and eighty-four yards in six games this fall.

Indeed, this writer continues, with

Acme

"The Flying Dutchman"

another season of play, "he may surpass the records left as a heritage to the Big Ten by the Galloping Ghost."

Grange had his big days, we read, "and so has Albie Booth, the will-o'-the-wisp of Yale, but Rentner is the most consistent maker of long runs the game has produced in many seasons. Rentner has played eleven games thus far in his collegiate career, and in seven of them he has made scoring sprints of more than fifty yards."

IT may be well to tell of his long dashes before going into the details of his ground-gaining ability, suggests Mr. Powers. For example:

As a sophomore he intercepted a forward pass against Tulane and raced fifty yards for a touch-down, and a week later duplicated that performance against Ohio State. Then came the game with Illinois in which he took a kick-off and spun his way forty-eight yards down the field and across the Indians' goal line.

He inaugurated the 1931 season by running sixty-five yards from a spread play to score against Nebraska. Next he circled Ohio's end to go fifty yards for a touch-down, and against Illinois he paced sixty-six yards on a sweep. Against Minnesota he returned a kick-off ninety-five yards and a punt eighty yards to put the

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Wildcats in the lead and virtually clinch the conference championship.

Among his lesser feats were the manufacture of two touch-downs, on shorter runs, against center last year, and a twenty-four-yard hike for a score against University of California, Los Angeles, earlier this fall.

Only two teams ever have turned Rentner back scoreless. Notre Dame stopt him in the rain and mud on Soldier Field, in early October, and a year ago he failed to score against Minnesota.

He was seriously injured in that Gopher game, but before quitting the field he hurled a forward pass that developed a lateral pass and a fifty-yard run for touchdown by Lee Hanley. So Minnesota did not escape him entirely unscathed.

In addition to his 1,084 yards in six games, Mr. Powers offers these added data on Rentner's prowess:

From scrimmage he has carried the ball seventy-eight times for a net gain of 473 yards, an average of 6.06 yards per try.

He has returned seven kick-offs, 217 yards, average thirty-one yards.

He has returned thirty punts for 345 yards, average 11.5 yards, and intercepted two passes for returns of twenty-eight yards, average fourteen yards.

With three games still to play, Rentner should be miles ahead of the season's nearest competitor as a ground-gainer.

Rentner's sensational play this season "represents a great physical comeback for the Flying Dutchman." He suffered, we are reminded, "a serious nerve injury in the 1930 game with Minnesota, while tackling big Jack Manders, the Gopher's full-back," in this manner:

Rentner made a clean tackle of the Gopher star, but as Manders bulled ahead, "Pug" turned his head and a nerve in his right shoulder was severely pinched. For six weeks his right arm was bound in an airplane splint, and so badly was the arm atrophied that for a while it was thought his football days were finished.

Throughout the winter and spring, Rentner was obliged to take daily massage, and during the summer he spent hours swimming in the attempt to rebuild the normal strength of the arm. He returned to Northwestern in September, with the arm functioning as well as ever, altho he still has a slight limitation of motion that forces him to carry the ball away from his body.

Victor in that, Rentner still could not completely shake off misfortune. He came out of a scrimmage against Illinois with his right thumb crusht and fractured in four places. That injury, of course, finished his forward passing for the season, but an especially built drum splint enabled him to continue in the game as a ball-carrier. And since there is nothing wrong with his legs, "Pug" continues to make a race course of big ten gridirons.

Rentner is not unlike Red Grange in his running. He is a shade faster than the Illinois star, and can better ten seconds for the century. But watch Rentner on Saturdays and Grange playing with the professionals on Sundays and you will see the same high-knee action, the same flip of the hips, and the same ability to turn on a dime and scat off at another angle.

The Wildcat—and how that name fits him—is a harder man to tackle than ever was Grange.

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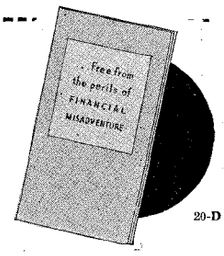

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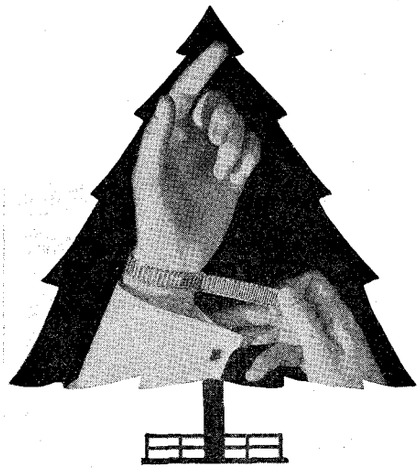

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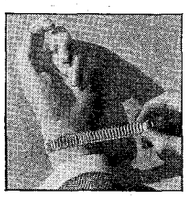
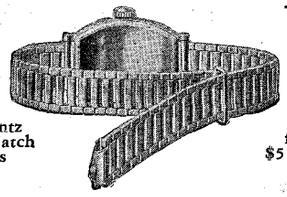
GIVE him a Krementz Wrist Watch Band for his Christmas! The finer his watch, the better he'll like this *self-adjustable* Krementz Band! The best that 65 years of making fine jewelry can put in a wrist watch Band! Easily slipped over the hand. Quickly adjusted to *any* size wrist without danger of dropping one's watch—and just as readily slipped up the forearm when washing one's hands—because a clever clasp hooks into *any* link of the band. A perfect gift for *any* man! Clean cut, mannish styles. 14 Kt. rolled gold over sterling silver. Also in solid sterling. Dainty styles for ladies, too.





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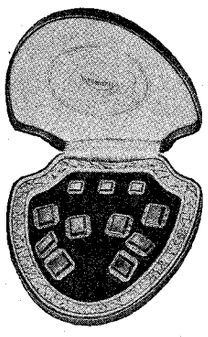

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JEWELRY FOR MEN

The World Will Be Kibitzer at the Lenz-Culbertson Contract Bridge Duel

ALL set for the Battle of the Century—the long-mooted challenge-contest of rival systems of contract-bridge bidding.

Yes, and rival personalities and powers of the hierarchy of bridge experts—the veteran Sydney S. Lenz, champion of the "official" system, and Ely Culbertson, champion of his own "approach-forcing" system.

These two battlers, the Dempsey and Tunney of the bridge world, trained to the minute, are to match wits in a series of rubbers of contract bridge, beginning December 7, while the whole world plays kibitzer over the radio.

Whichever champion wins, charity will bag the stakes.

In the presence of managers, lawyers, witnesses, referees, photographers, reporters, and press agents, relates the New York *Herald Tribune*, Mr. Lenz and Mr. Culbertson signed a seven-page, nineteen-clause agreement.

It appeared, we are told, "as formidable as a contract between contenders for the heavyweight prize-fighting crown."

The signing took place in Mr. Culbertson's New York apartment "after five months of verbal acrimony, challenges, counter-challenges, and negotiations."

During those five months feeling ran high on both sides of the contract-bridge controversy. Bridge-players, as everybody knows, are emotional. That is, most people are pretty emotional, and the game of bridge plays on the emotions as a hailstorm on an Eolian harp. So it is quite likely that the Lenz-Culbertson duel, or series of duels, will raise the temperature in many a household of radio and bridge fans. In view of which these further details supplied by *The Herald Tribune* will be of breathless interest to America's twenty-million (unofficial estimate) bridge sharps:

The contract, drawn up by counsel for the two bridge authors and players, covers every emergency that might arise in the course of a six-week, 150-rubber, 1,001-hand game of cards.

It provides for protests against players, stipulates what shall be done in case of cheating, takes care of the hiring of dealers and clerks, solves the kibitzer question, makes provision for broadcasting, lays down rules for the treatment of the press, names referees, and includes the all-important question of money.

Not only will the bidding systems of an estimated army of 20,000,000 bridge players of the United States be affected by the outcome, but New York charity will be involved. If Mr. Culbertson finesses in such a manner that he loses the match, not he, but the New York Infirmary for Women and Children, to whom he has pledged his earnings, if any, will be the loser. And if Mr. Lenz goes down to defeat, the Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee will be the loser.

Authorities of the United States Military Academy at West Point, taking cognizance of the importance of the match, have "loaned" Lieut. Alfred M. Gruenther to referee the match. Ralph J. Leibenderfer, Mr. Culbertson's lawyer, will represent him on the board of referees, and Fred L. Rogan, president of *Judge*, the magazine, will represent Mr. Lenz. Honorary referees will be Col. George G. J. Walshe, bridge editor of the London *Times*; M. H. Aylesworth, president of the National Broadcasting Company, and Frank Crowninshield, editor of *Vanity Fair*.

MR. LENZ and Mr. Culbertson, with Oswald Jacoby and Mrs. Culbertson as their respective partners, will start playing, we are told, at 8 P. M. on December 7. After that:

They will play four matches a week, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, until January 15, when the results must be announced. They will play 150 rubbers, and with a computed average of seven hands to a rubber there will be at least 1,000 hands.

If Mr. Culbertson wins, Mr. Lenz's check for $1,000, deposited yesterday with the referees, will be turned over to the New York Infirmary for Women and Children, and if Mr. Lenz wins, Mr. Culbertson's check for $5,000 will be turned over to the Emergency Unemployment Relief Committee.

Mr. Culbertson agrees to play his "approach-forcing" system, with the "one-over-one" variation, and Mr. Lenz, one of the originators of the "official" system, agrees to play the "one-two-three" variation of that system. Both contenders say they are fighting chiefly for their systems rather than to exhibit their individual talents.

Mr. Lenz must keep Mr. Jacoby as his partner for at least seventy-five of the 150 rubbers, and Mr. Culbertson must do likewise with Mrs. Culbertson. After seventy-five rubbers have been played Mr. Lenz can substitute any one, and Mr. Culbertson can substitute either Theodore A. Lightner or Byron Waldemar von Zedtwitz, members of Mr. Culbertson's *Bridge World* team.

Each player has deprecated the ability of the other in the matter of card-playing since Mr. Culbertson, last June, challenged Mr. Lenz. Mr. Culbertson has called Mr. Lenz an "ex-authority" and a "has-been," while Mr. Lenz has called Mr. Culbertson the "world's prize bluff."

Yesterday each was in an amiable mood. Altho Mr. Lenz said he found it hard to smile at Mr. Culbertson before the cameras, he willingly went through the formality of posing in a hand-shake with his opponent. Mr. Culbertson called him "Sid," and Mr. Lenz retaliated with "Ely."

Mr. Lenz showed the photographers a few card tricks, changing deuces with a flourish of the hand to aces. The odds in favor of Mr. Lenz rose immediately, even tho Mr. Lenz was disqualified in the second round of the Vanderbilt Cup match-play, while Mr. Culbertson was eliminated only on the third round.

THE Vanderbilt Cup, held by the Culbertson team since last year, changed hands on the day of the signing up for the Lenz-Culbertson duel. This is how *The Herald Tribune* tells the news:

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"The Four Horsemen of Bridge" still are unbeaten. They won the Vanderbilt Cup after four days of competition, thus keeping unbroken their string of victories, which began when they first played together, as a contract-bridge team last spring.

Philip Hal Sims, Willard S. Karn, Oswald Jacoby, and David Burnstine, to whom that picturesque sobriquet has been attached, had a margin of 1,235 points in their favor at the close of the play-off at the Cavendish Club, of the tie for the cup with the recently formed Cavendish team of Walter Malowan, John Mattheys, Howard Schenken, and Sherman Stearns.

The victors made a galloping finish in the second half of the match, after being ten points behind on the first sixteen hands. On these, Messrs. Sims and Karn had scored 1,375 points with the North-South cards against Messrs. Schenken and Stearns, whereas Messrs. Malowan and Mattheys had made 1,385 against Messrs. Jacoby and Burnstine.

The two pairs of the winning side remained seated for the second sixteen hands, while the two pairs of the other team switched places. This time, with a new set of hands, the victors' North-South pair tallied 2,450 points against the opponents' 1,205 in the other room, giving them a second-half advantage of 1,245, and total margin of 1,235.

Not only are the new cup-holders an unbeaten aggregation, but if they continue playing as they have, they appear almost unbeatable, we are told, "unless others now playing the game learn more bridge." As to method:

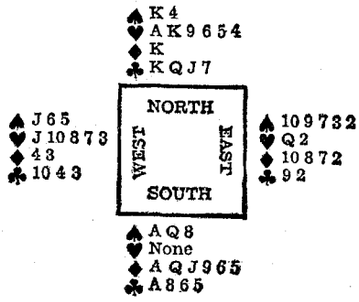
In the six matches of the final round they scored five victories, by 1,645 points, against the team they beat to-day, by 1,395, and 530 against the Culbertson team which won the cup last year, and by 1,285 and 875 against the Scott-Vanderbilt team, losing only one match, by 530 points, to the team which was in yesterday's play-off.

Thus they scored 5,200 more points than were made against them on the same sixty hands of the six matches. This gave them an average of eighty-six points a hand better than opponents. The Malowan-Mattheys-Schenken-Stearns team, reckoned the same way, averaged nine points a hand better than opponents, and the Culbertson team, which finished in a tie for last place in the finals, averaged forty-three points less a hand than opponents.

Thus the new champions were 129 points stronger a hand than last year's, on the self-same cards, an amazing margin, indicating how the game is changing.

The bidding system used by winners and runners-up was one in which the opener was permitted to bid no trump in preference to a suit unless the hand were better suited to the latter. They used a bid of one of a suit over partner's one of a suit as absolutely forcing a rebid from the first player, a feature employed by every pair in the finals except the two Culbertson pairs and the Vanderbilt-Leibenderfer pair. The latter pairs were the only ones in the finals employing the systems known to many as the "Culbertson" and "Vanderbilt" systems.

A typical example of the way the absolutely forcing "one-over-one" was employed by both play-off teams yesterday, came on a hand which produced a slam for both teams. These were the cards:



Mr. Karn, for "The Horsemen," and Mr. Mattheys for the Cavendish team, each started with one diamond in the south. Both Mr. Sims and Mr. Malowan in north position then bid one heart. In their method, this one bid after partner's one bid was bound to cause south to keep the bidding open, whereas users of some other method could not take a chance with that strong hand, of having the partner drop it. Mr. Karn responded to the heart bid with two diamonds, Mr. Sims bid three clubs, Mr. Karn four clubs, and Mr. Sims six, seven being made; Mr. Mattheys answered the one-heart demand call with three diamonds, whereupon Mr. Malowan bid six no trump at once and Mr. Mattheys took it to seven, which was made.

Subdivision Love

Oh, fly with me to Boomside Heights, my lovely bride-to-be,
And we will close an option on a villa by the sea;
To a careful restricted shore allotment we will fly,
Where a board of commerce sunset tints the subdivided sky.

At Boomside Heights love's dream comes true—the blueprints prove it so.
In Section Six, Addition Two, projected roses grow.
Here's a broker's affidavit that the moon is oversized;
That the ocean and the starlight are the same as advertised.

Oh, fly with me to Boomside Heights, nor tarry in your flight;
Dear, hand in hand we'll roam the land that doubles over night.
Come, view God's former handiwork—the season's niftiest buy—
Where a board of commerce sunset tints the subdivided sky.

—*Pressly Phillips, in Judge.*

Sauce for the Gander.—There was a tired business man, a member of that busy clan that shields itself from prying eye behind that good old alibi

In conference.

He rested in his office chair and ducked a lot of toil and care, and smoked cigars in sweet content and thus his busy hours were spent In conference.

Came anxious strangers by the score to camp outside his office door, and angrily they went their way for he was busy all the day In conference.

And so he died and at the gate an angel bade him stand and wait, and said to him with frowning brow, "St. Peter's mighty busy now In conference.

—*Birmingham Age-Herald.*

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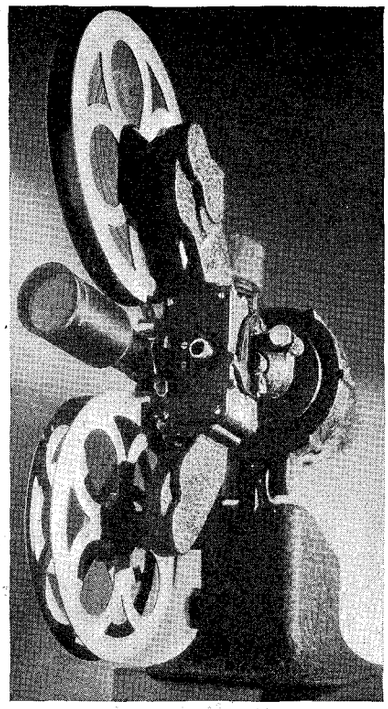

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Help Nature to help you fight colds

The "colds" season is now on. Now, more than ever, it is important to keep "regular." The doctor will tell you that keeping the system thoroughly cleansed is most important in the avoidance of colds.

To *cure* a cold is the doctor's business. No laxative can do that. But a mild, gentle laxative can do much to keep your resistance up by "keeping your system open." In fact, the first question the doctor is apt to ask when you have a cold is whether your bowels are "regular."

The doctor will recommend a laxative such as Ex-Lax. For Ex-Lax is so effective—so gentle and safe—it simply helps Nature.

What doctors demand

It's important, doctors say, that a laxative shouldn't be absorbed by the system, and that it should limit its action to the intestines.

It should not rush food through the stomach, which might disturb digestion. It shouldn't over-stimulate and irritate the intestines, thus weakening the natural functions. It should not gripe. And it should not be habit-forming.

Ex-Lax actually checks on each of these points the doctor looks for in a laxative.

That's why leading physicians everywhere prescribe Ex-Lax so frequently.

Ex-Lax tastes like delicious chocolate. Yet, it contains one of the most scientific of all laxatives—phenolphthalein—of the correct quality, in the correct proportion and the correct dose.

Good for grown-ups, too

The next time you need a laxative, eat Ex-Lax before you go to bed at night. You'll like its rich, chocolaty flavor. And next morning, you'll like the easy way that Ex-Lax works.

Its safeness and gentleness make Ex-Lax ideal for children as well as for grown-ups.

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A Modern Viking on the Trail of Columbus

"SOMETIMES the vyves go over us, and sometimes vee go over the vyves. For seventy-seven hours once I steered in a storm, and ven I got down I said, 'Tank God!'"

Thus Capt. Gerhard Folgeroe, whose face is "weathered to the color of a good rare steak," according to the New York *Herald Tribune*, and whose eyes are bright blue.

It is Captain Folgeroe's idea of sport, we read, to cross the Atlantic ocean in a very small boat. He has done it twice, most recently in the *Roald Amundsen*, a sixty-foot model of a Viking ship, which has carried him 15,000 miles on a voyage from Norway to New York. Captain Folgeroe and his crew of three steered a round-about route on this voyage—Norway to Spain, to New Orleans, up the Mississippi, through the Great Lakes and down the Hudson. From Spain to the Western Atlantic he followed the route of Columbus, and found the Atlantic child's play. But the Hudson was almost too much for him.

The *Roald Amundsen* "is about the size of a life-boat, with a dragon's head rising high above her prow and a dragon's tail at the stern—a blue-eyed dragon sticking out a long red tongue between horrific teeth." Further, we are told:

Only the dragon's head and the tip of the tail reached up to the level of the pier. In the middle is one mast with a square sail, and along the sides are round shields like those from behind which the ancient Norsemen mowed down all comers. Captain Folgeroe designed the ship himself, and it took seven men a year to build her.

Captain Folgeroe, who is not press shy, and who says some of his best friends are reporters, explained the hardships of the voyage with avidity. He or one of the crew steered lasht to a sawhorse on what would be the poop of a more modern ship, with not even a railing to protect them from the waves that washed over them. The compass was planted in front of the sawhorse, and steering was done by pulling a long wooden bar attached to the rudder.

"It takes pretty good nerves to sit out there at night. No friends, no money can help you there. In bad weather I steer myself, ven it is not bad I let one of the crew steer."

Captain Folgeroe left Norway almost a year ago with a crew of three. It took fifty-nine days to sail across the Atlantic, all of them stormy. Tho the ship has a ten-horse-power semi-Diesel motor, it was never used except to go through the Erie Canal.

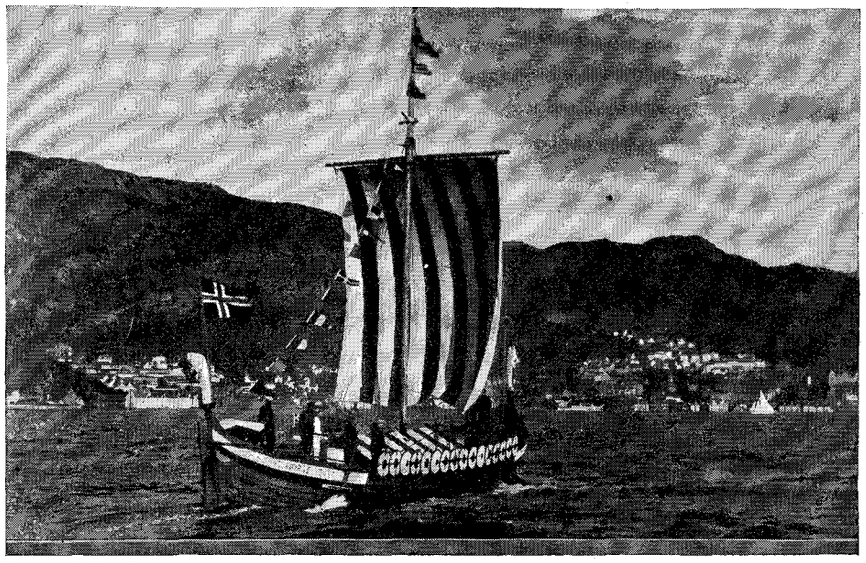
The stormy Atlantic, as we have already noted, was child's play to Captain Folgeroe, who has been "at sea since I was a little kid," but "the Hudson was almost too much for him." This is what happened at the very end of his voyage:

He had been expected on a Saturday afternoon, and 150 Norwegians, four policemen, an Assistant Corporation Counsel, and various welcomers waited at the foot of Seventy-third Street, Brooklyn, from three o'clock until after dark. Sunday morning at 10:30 he arrived, saying he had encountered head winds and had tied up at Fifty-ninth Street, Manhattan, rather than risk the crowded waters of the lower Hudson and the harbor after dark.

Most of the welcomers turned up again yesterday, and Captain Folgeroe received a somewhat smaller official welcome than if he had been a foreign notable arriving on a transatlantic liner. The *Roald Amundsen*, bobbed up and down like a cork despite her moorings, and the crew of two had to get off to make room for the reception committee.

Ferry-boats plying from a near-by pier to Staten Island looked like ocean greyhounds beside the small ships of the vikings—even smaller than old viking ships, according to Captain Folgeroe, because a larger craft "takes more mans and costs money nowadays."

After the speechmaking, the welcomers looked over the ship at 25 cents a head. Captain Folgeroe has financed himself on this trip, as on a previous one in which he followed the route of Leif Ericson, in an even smaller ship, by charging admission and selling post-cards.



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The Sturdy Descendant of Viking Ships of Yore

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THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY

The Big Gray Team from Sing Sing

"LOOK at Alabam' go!" yelled the boys on the side lines. And Alabam', the dashing football captain, was certainly going.

He had just duped the opposition, Joe Williams tells us in the New York *World-Telegram*, "by calling for a forward-lateral, taking the ball himself, and galloping sixty yards for a touch-down."

"Runs like he's trying to get away from a dick," laughed one of the inmates.

"Keep it up, Alabam'," chirped another, "and the pee-kay will put you on his All-America."

The pee-kay, Mr. Williams explains, is prison argot for prison-keeper, in this "instance a large, portly, kindly-looking gentleman, whose duties, among other things, consist of leading condemned men to the execution chamber. He's been around for twenty years."

For Mr. Williams was not paying a visit to any college campus to see the undergraduates gallop around with the pigskin. He was within the lowering gray walls of Sing Sing prison, and he was watching one of the stars of the prison football team do his stuff—Alabama Pitts from Montgomery. He's in the big house for ten years for larceny. And there's enough of the ten years left for him to develop into even more of a star than he is now.

Warden Lewis E. Lawes of Sing Sing permits football as part of the prison's recreational program; and he allows outside institutions to bring teams to the prison for games. Only a few days after Mr. Williams saw it, the gray team beat the Ossining Naval Militia 33 to 0. And as we write the convicts are slated to meet an aggregation of their traditional foes—the Port Jervis Police Department team.

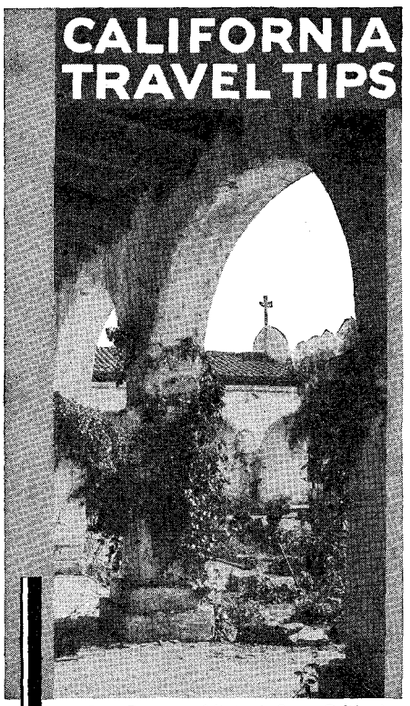
THE men's good-nature and "the genuine fun they got out of playing football and watching it played," imprest Mr. Williams. At any rate, he tells us, these men can still laugh. And having read similar comments in dispatches from Ossining, the Dayton *News* observed that "tragic prison riots of recent years were invariably caused by the explosion of pent-up emotional steam. Thrilling touch-down runs by the pride of Sing Sing should open the safety-valve of 'the stands.'"

The prison team even has a mascot—a pony decorated on game days with white stripes to make it look something like a zebra. This mascot appeared at the first game, of which we read in the New York *Times*:

Observing gridiron tradition, a parade of the opposing teams was led by the Sing Sing band blaring "Throw Him Down McCluskey" and other martial airs that serve as school songs behind the walls, and by the mascot, a pony painted in black and white—not a zebra could be found in the Westchester Hills—carrying Joan Marie Lawes, ten-year-old daughter of the warden.

With the first whistle the Sing Sing team

CALIFORNIA TRAVEL TIPS



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swung into action, sweeping through the naval militiamen. They were invincible in the first and third periods, but altho they played as brilliantly in the others, only one of the touch-downs made at that time could be ascribed to inspired playing. To their vanquished opponents the players explained that the layout of the field served as inspiration, for the prison gate lay in the direction of the goal they won on the toss.

The Sing Sing victory might have been even more decisive. In the excitement of the third quarter, when the inmate team, red helmets askew, blue-and-red jerseys black with mud, was being prest close to its goal-line, a Sing Sing end started to make off with the ball. Through a jagged break in the mass of scrimmaging players he plunged, only to be thrown.

Brushing the mud from his eyes, the end helped his tackler to his feet before he noticed that he had been dropt by one of his own men. It required all the diplomacy Capt. Alabama Pitts could command to forestall a huddle of his team about the absent-minded player.

But up in the stands, where 2,000 men were lost in the ecstasies of the favorite American sport, the tackler met with even less sympathy. "Slug him!" "Gang him!" they yelled, speaking figuratively, of course.

With equal abandon the inmates greeted each play with an uproar of applause or vituperation, as the occasion warranted. In Sing Sing, as elsewhere, football is a game played from the stands.

GUARDS armed with machine-guns "were posted on all the walls and at all points of vantage, but the inmate spectators did not see them," this account tells us as we continue:

It was their biggest day in many years. Only the visitors, the male members of whom were "frisked" for weapons as they entered, were reminded that not the honor of a college, but that of an institution, was at stake.

Beyond that, and the activity of the guards in holding the visitors to the vicinity of their seats when Pitts made a successful forward pass across the field to Stokes, the event was strictly a football game. News- and movie-photographers scampered about the walls, jostling a radio announcer who described the game play by play to the inmates confined in the hospital and the death-house, over the prison's loud-speaker system.

Only a squad of cheer-leaders was missing to organize the shouting. But if the team found the candidates, it could have the squad, Warden Lewis E. Lawes declared at the close of the game. With Maj. Harlan L. Mumma of the West Point Military Academy, the umpire, and Sam Darby of Syracuse University, the referee, Warden Lawes joined in praising the game as "the cleanest exhibition" he had ever seen.

The game passed almost without casualties, but George (Red) Hope, Sing Sing manager and erstwhile kidnaper, had seen to that. As the players threw off their blankets, Hope warned: "No slugging in the scrimmages," shaking a doubled fist. Red's word was law in the underworld he used to know before he drew a sixty-year term.

Mr. Williams went up to Sing Sing to see a practise session. He accompanied Tim Mara, proprietor of the New York Giants team, who donated both uniforms

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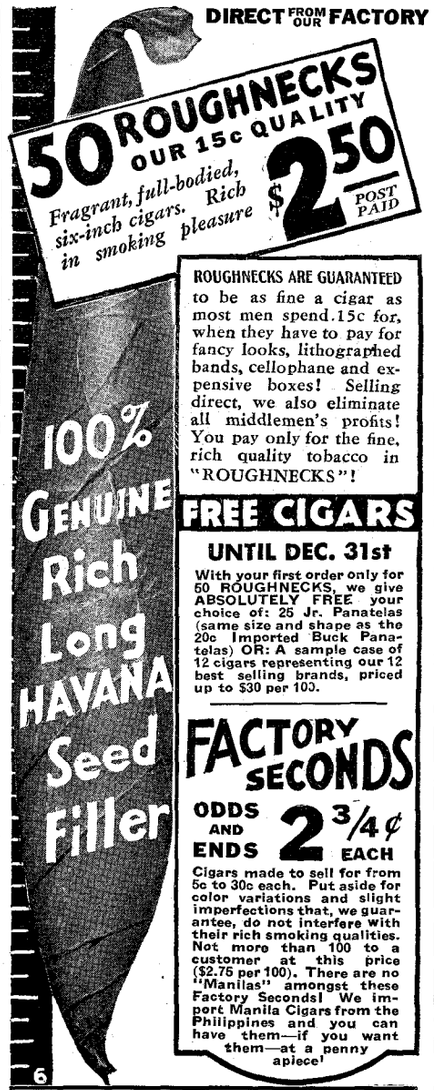

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and some free instruction by Chris Cagle and other stars of like magnitude. Mr. Williams admits that he started on the trip "for laughs." But, he continues in *The World-Telegram:*

There was something about the youthfulness and cleanliness of these men that was incredible. This couldn't be Sing Sing, the notorious American prison! These couldn't be criminals!

One of the linesmen was a boyish-looking youngster, not more than twenty-two. A visitor had called to see him and he hadn't had time to change to one of the football uniforms donated to the welfare department by Mr. Mara. The gray cap, spotless white shirt, and neatly prest gray trousers emphasized his youthfulness.

"That kid out there—you don't mean to say he's a criminal, too, do you?" I asked.

"Doing a ten-year bit. Got three to go," drawled a guard.

Standing around, looking and listening, you learn that the team is made up of all types of lawbreakers, from first-termers held for minor infractions to killers, who somehow managed to miss the chair and gain instead an aimless life between leering walls.

"That's what's wrong with the system," observed the same guard dryly. "Tossing these kids in there with them tough guys. If they ain't real criminals when they get here they ain't far from it when they leave."

I was disposed to agree that such a system was inhuman, idiotic, and outrageous, and I began to pen a mental letter of protest to my Congressman, when a shrill cry of glee swept over the prison gridiron.

Mr. Williams met the coach, a gentleman named Red Hope, of whom we read:

He walks up and down the field with a dignified air and judicious mien. All he knows about football is what he reads in the newspaper. They made him coach because he is going to be around for a long time.

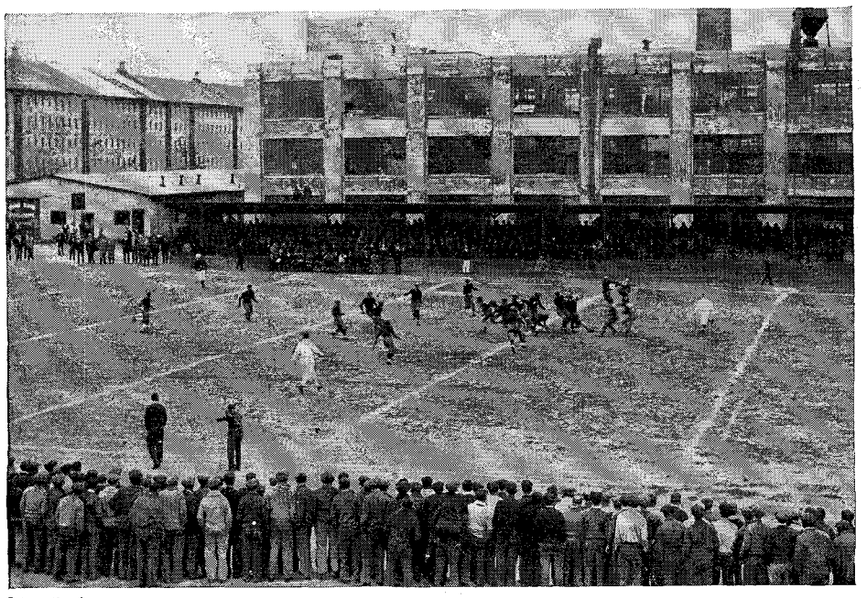
A couple of years ago he tried to kidnap two Broadway mobsters and hold them for ransom. The coup failed when the kidnaping car crashed into a police booth at Columbus Circle. Mr. Hope will be around for another fifty years or so as the State's reluctant guest.

"Just put in the paper that the teams up here are using the Hope system and will continue to use it for a great number of years," said the gentleman with a smile that might have been philosophical but was probably wholly ironical.

Out on the field Cagle was showing a backfield man how to manipulate a pass. "Throw it deep down the field and keep it high so your receiver will have time to get under the ball."

"That ain't the same Cagle what used to play with the Army, is it?" asked one of the side-liners, a wizened, gray-haired man. "I never saw him play except in the films they bring up here, but he must be pretty good."

The gray-haired man was telling the truth when he said he had never seen Cagle play. The big gates of Sing Sing opened up for Prisoner No. 0000 just about a year after Cagle was born.



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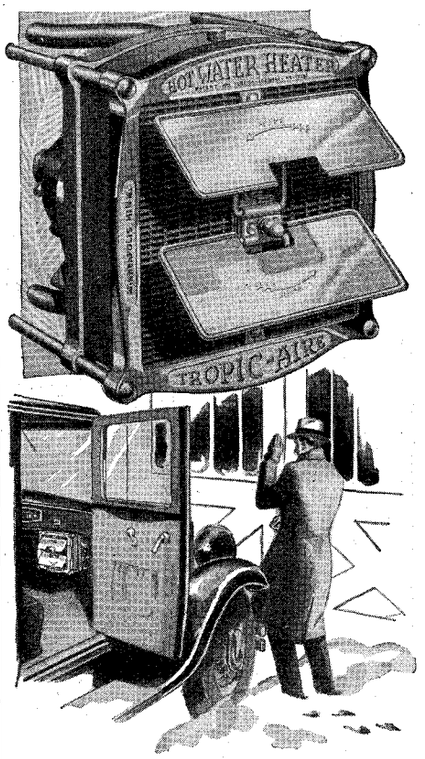

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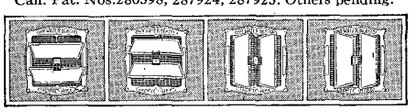

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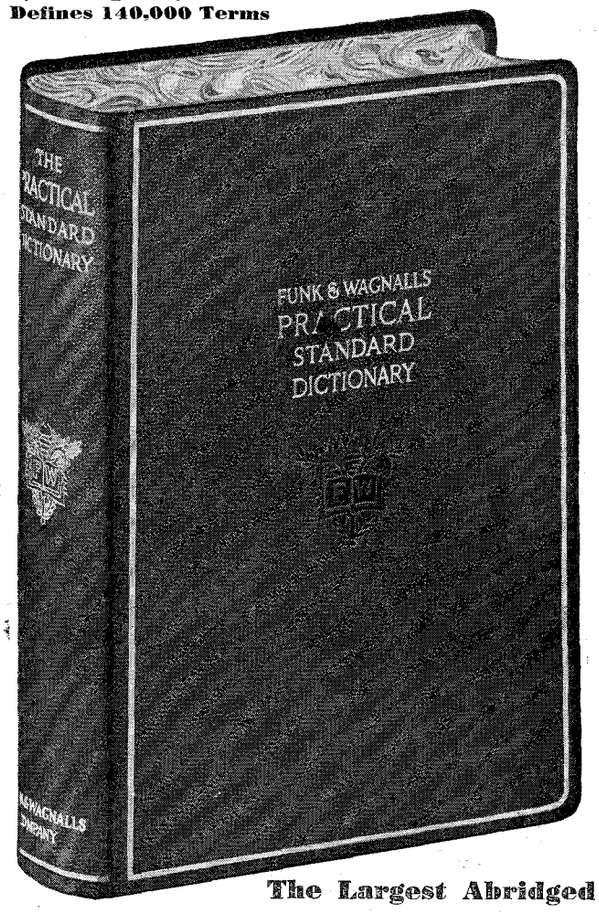

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What's Behind the Bull Market in Wheat?

A LEAN, SMALL, QUIET MAN with spectacles and silver hair sits in the customer's room of a Chicago brokerage-house, tipped back in his chair with feet on his table, watching the grain quotations being chalked up.

"How about it, Mr. Cutten?" inquires a reporter.

And Arthur Cutten, credited with being the biggest bull of the present wheat market, and the leader in the upward movement on the Chicago wheat pit, replies pleasantly, according to a New York *Evening Post* correspondent, that he simply can not be quoted—"but don't believe half of what they tell you about me."

According to a writer on the market page of the New York *Times*—

Mr. Cutten, who is rated as one of the most successful operators in the country, even if his fingers were scorched in the 1929 conflagration, mapped his wheat campaign months ago.

Before he took a position, he sent investigators to all the major wheat-growing countries, including Russia and Argentina, so that he has first-hand information concerning the world crop.

He probably knows better than any one else outside of Russia the extent to which that country's harvest has failed. He knows whether Russian exports will be above or below expectations.

And his information is just as extensive with respect to Argentina and Canada, and the statistical position of wheat in our own country. He still gets daily reports by cable from his personal representatives in important foreign centers.

Mr. Cutten, it may be assumed, hopes that public interest in the wheat market will continue to increase. He is the holder of an enormous quantity of the grain—not less than 100,000,000 bushels, brokers here understand. He will, of course, have to market the grain at some time or other. Those who know him say he is a capable merchant, and that he will know just when to sell.

International

The Big Bull of the Wheat Pit

Arthur W. Cutten, Chicago grain operator, is credited with playing a leading part in the autumn bull market in wheat.

Mr. Cutten, of course, is only one of those traders whose brokers on the trading floor of the Chicago Board of Trade buy and sell in the world's greatest grain market. They may not set the price, and yet, as R. L. Duffus points out in the Sunday *Times*, "the prices at which Chicago wheat brokers buy and sell have more than any other factor to do with the cost of the world's bread and the profits of the world's farmers." Those 300 men in that great trading-hall with its fifty-seven-foot ceiling, spell out with their fingers good times or bad for hundreds of thousands of their fellow men:

A closed fist flung up may mean that a farmer in Kansas can not meet the interest on his mortgage this winter. An uplifted thumb may mean that he can buy his wife a new dress and himself a new car.

How far the rise in wheat is due to well-managed market manipulation by speculators, and how far to actual improvement in the wheat situation itself, is a question being asked on every hand. "Speculative elements now dominate the market, but they do so in the first place by virtue of fundamentally constructive forces now operating," remarks Winthrop W. Case in *The Annalist*.

And what are these "fundamentally constructive forces"? Edward H. Collins enumerates them briefly like this on the financial page of the New York *Herald Tribune:*

1. The change of policy on the part of the Farm Board, whereby the latter declared its intention to sell not more than 5,000,000 bushels of wheat a month, except in connection with certain transactions with foreign countries then under discussion. (These transactions resulted, ultimately, in the disposal of 47,500,000 bushels of wheat to Germany, Brazil, and China.)

2. A short Canadian crop. The new Canadian crop is placed at 270,000,000 bushels, against an average of approximately 400,000,000.

3. A spring crop in the United States estimated at 109,000,000 bushels, against 251,000,000 a year ago, and comparing with a five-year average of 274,000,000 bushels.

4. A wet harvest in Europe. Such a harvest normally results in a lower yield, while it takes a greater number of bushels of grain harvested under such conditions to meet a given consumptive demand.

5. A world wheat crop 200,000,000 bushels smaller than a year ago.

6. A drop in barley and rye production estimated at 15 per cent.

7. A live-stock consumption of wheat as an alternative to corn, running some 50,000,000 bushels higher than normal during the year just ended, thus adding that much to the year's "disappearance" of wheat.

The rise in prices of about 50 per cent. or 20-odd cents a bushel between early October and mid-November is justified, according to the Alexander Hamilton Institute's *Business Conditions Weekly*, by the evidence of a diminishing world supply of wheat:

The first indication that the world wheat supply would be smaller than a year ago appeared last April when India's crop came to harvest. The crop was estimated at 347,000,000 bushels as compared with 391,000,000 in 1930, a reduction which practically eliminated any exportable surplus.

The next indication of wheat curtailment was the partial failure of the Canadian crop. It was estimated in September that the Canadian yield would be the smallest since 1924, amounting to 271,000,000 bushels this year as against 398,000,000 bushels last year.

Then came the failure of the spring wheat crop in the United States which nearly offset the bumper winter wheat crop. The total wheat crop raised in the United States in 1931 is now estimated at 884,000,000 bushels as against 863,000,000 bushels last year, an increase of only 21,000,000 bushels.

The reduction in the Canadian crop not only offsets the increase in the United States crop, but also offsets the larger carryovers in the United States and Canada. The exportable surpluses of these two countries at the beginning of the season amounted to 659,000,000 bushels this year as against 716,000,000 bushels last year.

Recently, reports from Argentina and Australia have become available, showing that less wheat has been planted this year than last, and indicating that smaller crops will be harvested at the beginning of 1932 than a year ago. It is estimated that Argentina's acreage has been reduced 19 per cent., and Australia's acreage, 25.6 per cent. While it is not yet possible to estimate the yields, there is a fair possibility that the combined exportable surpluses of the two countries will be 100,000,000 bushels smaller than during the past year.

In addition, there is considerable evidence that the exportable wheat surplus remaining in Russia at the present time is meagre. The 1931 crop was smaller than the 1930 yield while exports from July 1 to October 24 totaled 53,300,000 bushels this year, as against 33,700,000 for the same period last year.

In the face of reduced yields in exporting countries there are now indications that the European import demand during the remainder of the season will be larger than a year ago. The wheat crop in Europe, exclusive of Russia, is now estimated at

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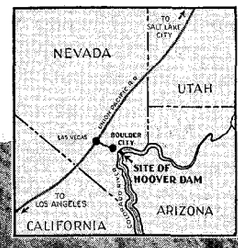


The Hoover Dam region on the Nevada-Arizona line.

HOOVER DAM is under way. The great Boulder Canyon project of the United States Government which has long made news for a nation now advances into construction stages.

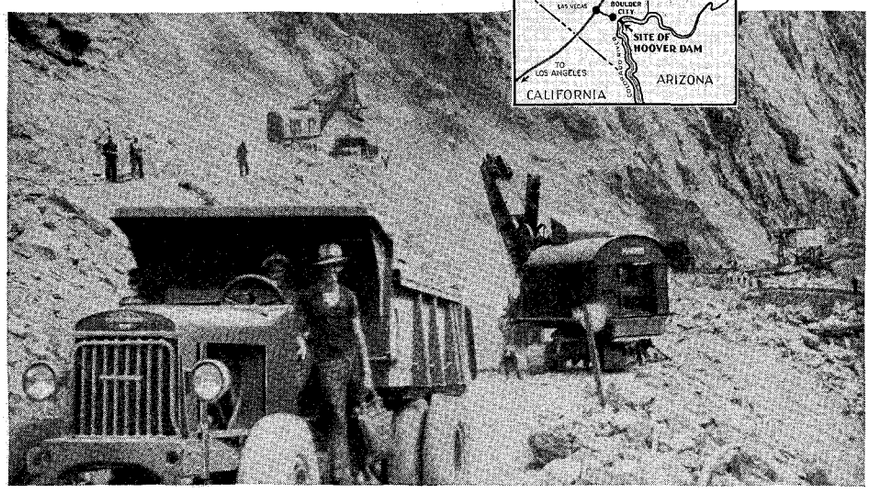
And as action begins on the mighty Colorado, comes a news item of vital interest to the construction industry and to the automotive world. Six Companies Inc., of San Francisco, a combination of six leading western contractors which is to build Hoover Dam under a bid of $48,890,999, has standardized on International Trucks as qualified above all others to bear the heavy hauling responsibilities in their contract.

The full meaning of this decision—the extent of the honor paid to International performance and service—can be appreciated only when measured against the immensity of the project itself.

The Job—

Space does not permit going into the details of the Hoover Dam project. They have long been matters of public record. Suffice it here to say that the plan encompasses flood control and general river regulation, irrigation, silt control, power development and domestic water supply affecting a large part of the Southwest. The entire enterprise involves an appropriation of $165,000,000 and includes many auxiliary developments of great magnitude in addition to the dam itself.

The dam will fill the gigantic chasm of the Colorado River to a height of about 730 feet above the foundations. It will be one-eighth of a mile thick at the base, will contain about 3,400,000 cubic yards of concrete, and will impound 30,500,000 acre-feet of water in an area vastly greater than Gatun Lake at the Panama Canal. Millions of yards of rock and earth must be removed; millions of tons of building material must be hauled. Employment will be given to thousands of men, the work extending over a period of six to seven years.

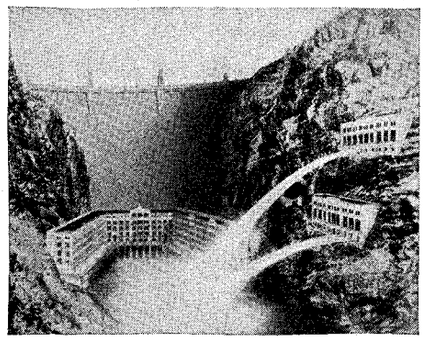


One of the International heavy-duty trucks working at Hoover Dam. The open hood is expressive of the intense heat in the canyon, rising as high as 128 degrees. The boulder-proof armored cab is further evidence of conditions encountered. Note, at right of shovel, the entrance to an auxiliary tunnel used in construction of the great diversion tunnels that will extend three miles through solid rock.

Today the canyon hums with intense activity. "Boulder City" is springing into being like a magic town of gold or oil. Railways and highways are being built. Modern engineering genius is mobilizing to conquer problems that stagger the imagination. Already work has begun on four great diversion tunnels each 50 feet in diameter and nearly a mile long, to be driven through the solid rock of the canyon walls. These channels alone involve the hauling of *nearly a million truck loads.*

—and the Trucks

In such a setting, with mountains to be moved under such conditions, trucks will have their work cut out for them. Six Companies Inc., guided by years of experience in heavy-duty hauling, is banking on Internationals. The fine performance of Internationals in the service of the first sub-contractors on work in the canyon only made the choice the easier. Scores of International Trucks are now in process of delivery at the site. The first fleets have long been on the job, rugged, capable, and economical—admired alike by the engineers, the drivers and the shovelmen who know full well how good each truck must be to stand the gaff.



Hoover Dam as it will look on completion, towering 730 feet above foundation rock, with power houses on both banks of the river. The dam will be nearly 1200 feet long, 45 feet thick at the top, and 650 feet thick at the base. This barrier will form a reservoir 115 miles in length with a shore line of 550 miles and an area of 227 square miles, the largest artificial lake in the world.

International Harvester is proud to have Internationals selected for work on Hoover Dam. The news from Boulder Canyon is of great practical value to buyers of trucks everywhere. It provides another chapter of evidence contributing to the high reputation of International Trucks.

Front of dam will rise just beyond foot bridge shown here. Hoover Dam will be higher than any dam now existing and the construction will require 5,500,000 barrels of cement and nearly 60,000 tons of steel and other metals.

INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER COMPANY OF AMERICA (INCORPORATED)
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1,387,000,000 bushels this year as against 1,363,000,000 last year. This increase of 24,000,000 bushels, however, is more than offset by a reduction of 138,000,000 bushels in the rye yield. The European rye yield is estimated at 713,000,000 bushels this year, as against 851,000,000 bushels last year.

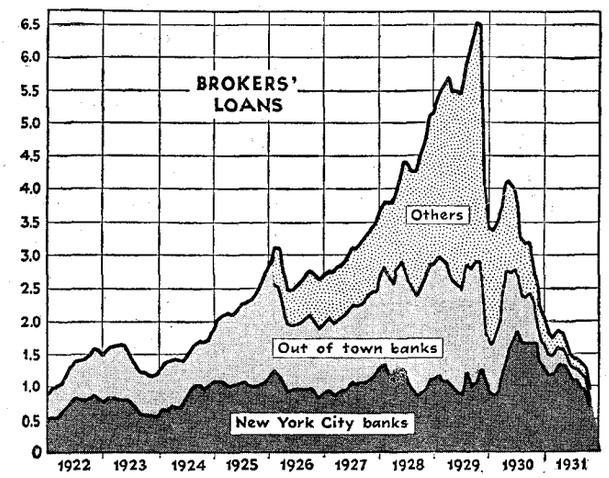
PERHAPS Russia deserves a little special attention, and Hickman Price, Jr., comes back from Russia to write about the Russian wheat situation for the New York *Herald Tribune*. In all the maze of contradictory statements about Russian wheat, the one certain thing is the much smaller shipments of wheat this fall as compared with the fall of 1930. For this, says Mr. Price, there are several possible explanations:

First, nearly all crop reports indicate that the per-acre yield is considerably below that of last year. Could it be that Russia has no more grain to export? Second, it is possible that the Government is deliberately withholding export wheat in the hope of a bullish trend in the market caused partially by its failure to make deliveries. Third, should the Soviet Government be involved in a Chino-Japanese war, it would need considerable quantities of wheat. Fourth, frequent reports indicate food riots and peasant resistance in the south. It has been the policy of the Government to stifle such unrest by providing the people with sufficient quantities of food. Possibly fearing a passive revolt and consequent sabotage, the Government may be withholding exportable grain to cope with such a situation during the winter.

MR. PRICE—who, by the way, is the son of Hickman Price, whose 23,000-acre wheat-farm in the Texas Panhandle was described in our August 15 issue—thinks that fears of Russian wheat have been exaggerated. He says:

The 1930 Russian wheat crop was significant, because it marked the first time in which Russia had reached its prewar level of export grain and, also, because it paved the way for elaborate plans for production expansion. Despite its comparatively excellent wheat year, Russia had only just arrived at a point of production achieved in the prewar period. Apparently many did not take this into consideration, but jumped to the conclusion that, because of its use of large-scale economies as well as no expense for land and virtually none for labor, Russia was going to flood the rest of the world with wheat. In other words, the reaction to the Russian reentrance into world competition was largely psychological. Considerable interest was aroused a year ago when the United States Department of Agriculture conducted an investigation of Russian selling practises on the Chicago Board of Trade. This inquiry showed their dealings to be comparatively negligible. This is a case in point, because it illustrates the excitement aroused when the subject of Russian wheat exports is mentioned. A great deal of space has been devoted to fears of the Russian wheat "factories" underselling and, consequently, putting out of business wheat producers in other countries.

RUSSIA is still decades behind the United States agriculturally and mechanically, argues Mr. Price. Besides, facilities for the transportation of wheat are extremely unsatisfactory. "Faulty mechanization, poor production methods, inefficient management, inferior transportation, and inexperience," are some of the things that lead Mr. Price to believe that "it will be many years before Russia becomes a very great factor on the international wheat market." And just now in spite of increased acreage for 1931, bad weather conditions are likely to bring the actual harvest down below the 1930 level.



From *The Business Week*

The Money That Financed the Stock Boom

The chart of brokers' loans (in billions) shows how corporate, individual and foreign money played the leading part in financing the 1929 stock market. Since figures for non-banking money and money from banks outside New York were not published separately before 1926, the chart groups them prior to that date.

No More "Bootleg Money" for Wall Street

LAST WEEK WALL STREET'S "bootleg money" ran up against a Prohibition Law of its own.

Those "loans for others" that loomed so large in the speculative boom of 1929, officially came to an end on November 16 as far as the New York clearing-house banks are concerned.

For a long time the New York Clearing House Association banks had wanted to discourage the practise of corporations, investment trusts, and individuals, of lending out their idle cash in the call-money market. Now the Association rules that its member banks are not to make call or time security loans for other than banks.

The rule, writes Harry H. Becker in the New York *American*, "was adopted principally because the banks felt that by so doing they will be in a stronger position to exercise complete control over call-money lending operations in the local market." Mr. Becker reminds us that:

During the speculative boom period which culminated in the fall of 1929, the money market provided a highly profitable field for the huge unused cash of numerous corporations and other non-banking lenders. The peak of these funds used in stock-market operations was reached on October 2, 1929, totaling $3,941,000,000.

THIS action by the New York clearing-house banks is discust as follows—and illustrated by the diagram herewith reprinted—in the current issue of *The Business Week:*

By the time the last boom started, the corporations and the wealthy individuals had already discovered that the financing of the securities business offered them a safe and profitable use for their liquid assets. They found New York City banks very willing to make security loans for them. In 1928-29 the Federal Reserve System, seeking to limit speculation, was able to curb the amount of bank funds involved. But the speculators wanted money, and the corporations had it by virtue of large security flotations and high earnings. The accompanying chart shows that the security boom in 1928-29 was financed largely with their funds.

This situation, pleasant as it was for these non-banking lenders, made financial officials unhappy.

It meant that speculation was being independently financed by lenders who had no responsibility for financial stability. But when every one was making money the warnings of a few economists and the ire of Senator Glass were cheerfully ignored.

Then came the crash, and these funds, as predicted, were pulled out wholesale without regard for the stability of the market. The banks, left holding the sack, had to lend for their own protection.

Then the whole financial community became concerned.

First, the New York banks began to charge a commission for placing funds of non-bankers, and now they will not place them at all. The smallness of the volume of such loans just now [$162,000,000 on November 11] makes the move of little immediate significance, but it can be of great importance to corporations, speculation, and the banks in the long run.

There is some doubt, however, whether the move is really conclusive. Non-banking money can get into the stock market through other channels than those furnished by the New York City banks. Loans can be made direct to brokers or through other agents, such as money brokers.

But the New York banks have made an excellent tactical step. Senator Glass has martialed considerable strength in favor of

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having Congress ban "others'" loans by ironclad laws. The banks would rather keep out of Congressional hands and probably thought that this move would forestall legislation. But their success is doubtful, since Congress probably will want to settle the matter without leaving any loopholes.

Should non-banking money be completely barred by this and subsequent action, speculation will be much more thoroughly under the control of the banks and, therefore, of the Federal Reserve system. The banks will bear a greater responsibility. Corporations could turn to other short-term investments such as acceptances and Treasury bills.

Fewer and Better Banks

A SMALL bank in Ohio invites its depositors to come and get their money as it is going out of business.

It is perfectly solvent, but the directors feel that there isn't enough business to go around.

There have been several instances like this, of late, reports the Boston *News Bureau*, and "they are somewhat symptomatic of the immediate times, and also of a longer-range trend":

It has been a lean and rather trying season lately for many banks. Hoarding, closings, runs, and the need for "keeping liquid" have added to the difficulties, besides frozen assets, lowered profits, and bond account depreciation. Even tho that period may well have been worked out of by now, it is perhaps natural that some small institutions, feeling that they were more or less operating in a vacuum, should get discouraged and simply quit by voluntary liquidation. It is an honest admission of relative non-success; and the cases thereof are not many.

Possibly in some of them there had never been much real reason for existence, or hope of future growth. Just as, much more clearly, many of the failed banks of the past few years, all too numerous and also all too weak, never should have been promoted—or chartered.

AND then the Boston daily gives a few figures showing how rapidly the total number of banks in this country is decreasing:

Last year, in this category, 1,345 banks were closed. In the ten years, 1921-30, no fewer than 6,987 expired, with deposits of $2,586,000,000. In nine months of 1931 an additional 1,234 have succumbed. It is a rather inglorious chapter—largely closed, it may be hoped, with the advent of the National Credit Corporation, the new proposed home-financing Hoover proposal, and the prospect of further remedial banking legislation.

To-day we have in the United States nearly 8,500 or 27 per cent. fewer banks of all types than ten years ago. In 1922 we had 30,325. Failures, mergers, and liquidations brought that total down to 25,110 at the middle of 1929. In the past two years no fewer than 3,207 others faded out, leaving only 21,903 in operation on June 30, last.

It all means many fewer, but much stronger and better-run, banks in this country.

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Banded Birds

MANY THOUSANDS of migratory water-fowl are now yearly fitted with metal bands bearing a serial number and a request to notify the United States Biological Survey in Washington.

As this banding is done at some sixty stations in all parts of the United States and Canada, valuable and interesting information about the breeding places of these birds and their distribution has been gathered.

Some of the facts brought out—often very unexpected—are stated in an article contributed by Dr. Frederick C. Lincoln, of the Biological Survey, to *Outdoor America* (Chicago), part of which we quote as follows:

"Does this wholesale marking of migratory birds with numbered bands have a practical application?

"Most decidedly it does.

"To begin with, the proper administration of any of our natural resources demands the fullest possible information.

"Constant research is an imperative need. In most of the big shooting marshes of the country the ducks that form the targets of the hunters are birds of passage, and so every sportsman should be much concerned with the accumulation of knowledge concerning the breeding or wintering grounds of his particular birds."

ONLY through records of banded individuals can such precise information be obtained, we are assured. If the sportsman shoots on a marsh that serves also as a breeding ground, he desires to know where his birds go in winter and how they get there. Also what percentage of them are killed by hunters in other parts of the country. Banding will tell, since it has been found that the percentage of first-season returns from banded water-fowl are fairly uniform. Dr. Lincoln goes on:

"To take a concrete case: Suppose drought conditions should, with disease and shooting, so decimate the flocks in the West and Middle West that it would be necessary to curtail the hunting of ducks and geese.

"The records from banded birds have shown that there is very little interchange of birds between the East and West during the migratory season.

"This means that whereas the ducks that migrate through the eastern and western parts of the country may have common breeding and wintering grounds, they adhere closely to their ancient highways when on migration.

Courtesy of *Outdoor America* (Chicago)

Putting a Band on Mr. Drake Mallard

So he can give an account of where he has been.

"It is very unusual for a duck banded in the Mississippi Valley or eastward to be recovered in the United States west of the hundredth meridian.

"During the time when the bill to create the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge was being considered by Congress, a little opposition developed on the part of a few who contended that there were not many hunters concerned with the Bear River Marshes, and that the funds to be made available should be spent in other regions. Through the records of ducks banded in these marshes it was possible to show that the majority of the ducks in which California sportsmen were interested either breed in the Bear River Marshes or use this area as a feeding and resting ground.

"Similarly, the successful passage of the bill providing for the establishment of the Cheyenne Bottoms Migratory Bird Refuge was due in part to the graphic portrayal of the value of this area by mapping the recovery records of ducks that had been banded there. Birds banded in that area have been recaptured in nineteen States, four provinces of Canada, Alaska, and Mexico.

"In the administration of the migratory wild-fowl resources of the country, the Biological Survey aims to apply the latest and most up-to-date methods for obtaining data upon which to base its decision.

"Its staff, the author among them, includes many enthusiastic devotees of the shotgun, and no season passes without some of them spending more or less time in the wild-fowl marshes of the country.

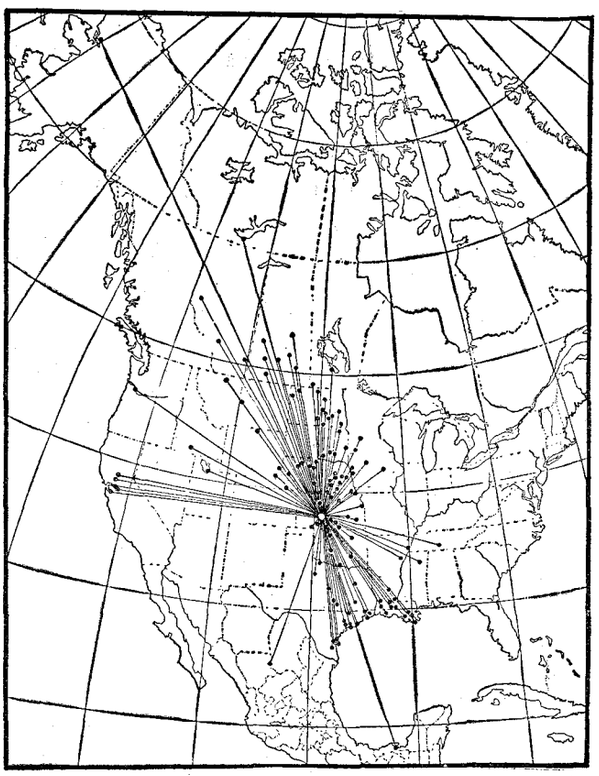
"The conservation of these birds with the consequent perpetuation of the sport of wild-fowling is not, however, the sole responsibility of a small staff of scientific workers and a little corps of game protectors, but one that rests with equal weight on the shoulders of every person interested in these birds. Cooperation has accomplished much in the past, and sportsmen, conservationists and scientists can do still more if they will actively 'band together.'

"The present waterfowl crisis is likely to become more acute even with favorable conditions in future years. Carefully directed aid by all friends of these birds should begin at once and continue a long time.

"We are not well informed regarding drought cycles, breeding age, change of nesting area, sex ratios, etc., and the migratory routes must be much more carefully studied. Trapping and banding will further such work.

"Why not ask for information on the subject and take it up among your friends?

"The time to express active interest is now."



Courtesy of the U. S. Biological Survey

Where the Ducks Go

From the Cheyenne Bottoms, Kansas.

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

To decide questions concerning the correct use of words for this column, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers who require immediate attention will receive it if they enclose a stamped return envelop. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

beats the Dutch.—"H. S. F. R.," New York City.—An expression often applied in New York and New England to anything that creates astonishment. The earliest instance of its use occurs in a Revolutionary song written during the Siege of Boston, in 1775:—

And besides all the mortars, bombs, cannons, and shells,
And bullets and guns, as the newspaper tells,
Our cargoes of meat, drink, and cloaths *beat the Dutch:*
Now who would not tarry and take t' other touch?
—*New England Historical Register*, April, 1857, p. 191.

compounds, plurals of.—"J. E. B.," Los Angeles, Calif.—Goold Brown, in his "Grammar of English Grammars," writes: "Compounds, in general, admit but one variation to form the plural, and that must be made in the principal words rather than in the adjunct; but where the terms differ little in importance, the genius of the language obviously inclines to a variation of the last only. Thus we write: *fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, knights-errant, courts-martial, cousins-german, hangers-on, comings-in, goings-out, goings-forth,* varying the first; and *man-haters, manstealers, manslayers, maneaters, mandrills, handfuls, spoonfuls, mouthfuls, pailfuls, outpourings, ingatherings, downsittings, overflowings,* varying the last. So in many instances, when there is a less intimate connection of the parts, and the words are written with a hyphen, if not separately, we choose to vary the latter or last; as, *fellow-servants, queen-consorts, three-per-cents, he-goats, she-bears, jack-a-dandies, jack-a-lanterns, piano-fortes.*"

Some other words that form the plural by the addition of the "s" to the first term are—*aides-de-camp, attorneys-at-law, billets-doux, commanders-in-chief:* a few that add the "s" to the last terms are—*forget-me-nots, go-betweens,* and *goose-quills.*

content, contents.—"J. A. G.," New York City.—*Content* is a singular noun; *contents* is a plural noun. As the *contents* consist of several articles in the house, and they are referred to collectively by the word used, when you say, "The *contents* of the house *are* one piano, two chairs, etc.," the verb should be *are* and not *is.*

continuity.—"H. T.," New York City.—Altho the dictionary pronunciation *CON-tinuity* is an abnormal one we do not say *CON-tinually,* and inasmuch as *continuity* and *continually* both have the same number of syllables, why should a different pronunciation be introduced, except as a national idiosyncrasy? Take the words *con-TIN'u-al-ly; con-TIN'u-a-ble; con-TIN''u-A'tion; con-TIN'u-a-tive; con-TIN'u-a''tor; con-TIN'u-ous-ly;* in none of these does the stress fall upon the first syllable, as it does in *continuity.* As a matter of record, *continuity* takes a secondary stress upon the first syllable and a primary stress upon the antepenultimate—*con''ti-nu'i-ty. Continuation* takes a secondary stress on the preantepenultimate and the primary stress on the penultimate, but in *continuator* the primary stress falls upon the preantepenultimate and the secondary stress upon the penultimate, and so in pronunciation, as in other things, variety is charming, even if exasperating.

Crœsus.—"S. A.," New York City.—The wealthiest man in the history of the world was *Crœsus,* last king of Lydia, who from his conquest, his mines, and the golden sands of the Pactolus, accumulated so much treasure that his wealth has become proverbial—"Rich as Crœsus" now signifying rich beyond the dreams of avarice. He reigned from B. C. 560 to 546, but dissipated, and yielding himself up to sumptuous extravagance and the pleasures of life, declared that he was the happiest man in the world. Welcoming the Greeks to his court, he was visited by the great Athenian lawgiver Solon, of whom he asked the question, "Who was the happiest man in the world that he had seen?" to receive in reply, "No man should be called happy until his death."

Coming into conflict with Cyrus, the Persian king, Crœsus was defeated, his capital Sardis taken, and he was condemned to death by burning. As he stood awaiting the firing of the pyre, he recalled Solon's aphorism, and exclaiming "O Solon!" three times, aroused the curiosity of Cyrus who, inquiring into the reason for the ejaculations, was told the story of Solon's precept, and spared his life.

According to another story Apollo, by miraculous intervention, extinguished the flames of the pyre by a heavy downpour of rain. This was accepted as an omen, and Crœsus was released to be treated with great consideration by his conqueror thereafter.

But, the *First Book of Kings* tells us that "King Solomon exceeded all the kings of the earth for riches and for wisdom." (X:23).

Digest.—"G. G.," Bagley, Minn.—The correct pronunciation of *Digest* in the name *Literary Digest* is *dai'jest*—*ai* as in *aisle, e* as in *get.*

matches.—"T. B. F.," Alexandria, Va.—The English claim the invention of matches for Sir William Congreve, in 1827; the Germans claim it for Kammerer, who was the first manufacturer of matches in 1832; the French claim it for Charles Sauria, of Poligny, France, in January, 1831. By the Austrians and the Hungarians, the invention was claimed for Stephan Roemer, Preshel, and Ironyi, without dates.

Encyclopedists claim that chemical matches were in use in or about 1809. These, however, were not friction matches but wooden splinters that were coated with sulfur and a mixture of potassium chlorate, lycopodium, and sulfur applied with liquid gum. They were ignited by dipping in concentrated sulfuric acid. Phosphorus was used in making the matches of Congreve and Sauria.

Medici.—"C. A.," New York City.—The English pronunciation is *med'i-chi* (*e* as in *get, i's* as in *habit, ch* as in *chin*). The Italian pronunciation is *me'di-chi* (*e* as in *prey, i's* as in *police, ch* as in *chin*). In Italian words, as in French, the stress is evenly distributed over each syllable.

milliner.—"E. S.," New York City.—The maker of women's hats is called a *milliner,* because the word is said to be a corruption of *Milaner,* a dealer in wares from Milan, the Italian city famous originally for its silks and ribbons as well as its cutlery. The early milliner was a man who dealt exclusively in women's wearing apparel—not merely in hats.

paper, when invented.—"G. D.," New York City.—The paper of Egypt and India was made from papyrus-plant, and the earliest known specimens are attributed to the year B. C. 3966. They were discovered in the monuments ascribed to that period. In the ruins of Herculaneum, excavated in 1754, one hundred and fifty rolls of manuscript papyri were discovered in a chest. Herculaneum was overwhelmed with Pompeii, by the lava of Vesuvius in August, 79. Paper was first made of cotton about 600 A. D.; of rags about the year 1300. Mr. Joseph Hunter, in volume 37 of "Archæologia," states that the earliest paper book he had seen was a manuscript account-book dated 1302.

prepare; make.—"J. M.," New York City.—*Prepare,* from the Latin *præparo,* is "to get beforehand" or "take steps for the purpose of providing." *Make,* from the Anglo-Saxon *macian,* is "to put together with art." In English, one *prepares* a dinner, but does not *make* it. Avoid, "I told my wife to *make* dinner"; say, "I asked my wife to *prepare* dinner." One *makes* tea, that is, prepares the infusion, but *prepares* dinner.

proprietor.—"A. C. J.," Lindsborg, Kan.—The abbreviations in use for the word *proprietor* are *prop.* and *propr.*

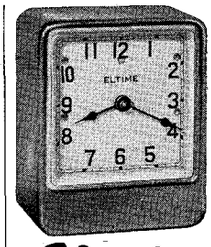
received.—"I. B.," New York City.—This word is correctly divided *re-ceived;* not *re-ceiv-ed.*

sky: color of.—"T. N.," Union City, N. J.—The blue of the sky is the result of the scattering of beams of white light on myriads of small particles of dust, so that the scattered light is seen against a background formed by the darkness of the outer space. The scattered rays are fainter when the particles are finer, but, then, there is a greater excess of blue in the deflected rays.

telescope.—"D. C.," Albany, N. Y.—The first telescope was made by Zacharias Janssen, sometimes written Jansen, with the assistance of Hans Lapprey of Lipperhey, both of Middleburg, in Zeeland (Netherlands), and James Metius of Alkmaar (Netherlands) in 1590. Altho the idea of such an instrument had been expounded by Roger Bacon about the year 1250, one Leonard Digges, who died in 1573, applied the principle expounded to pieces of glass before his death, as told by him in the second edition of his "Pantometria," published by his son in 1591.

But, two of the children of Janssen were responsible for the practical discovery that two pieces of glass, with which they were playing, when held in positions slightly apart from one another, increased the size of the weathercock on the church steeple to the sight of any one who looked through them. They told their father of this discovery, and he fixed two pieces of glass in cylinders that could be adjusted, and so the first crude telescope was made.

Galileo, astronomer to the Grand Duke of Tuscany, further developed the principle, increasing the power until he was able to discover Jupiter's satellites by the aid of his instruments in January, 1610. Owing to this fact, and to other improvements that he added, he is commonly accredited as the inventor.



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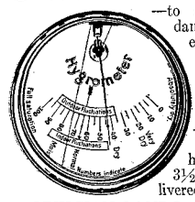

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THE SPICE OF LIFE

(TITLE REGISTERED IN U. S. PATENT OFFICE)

Chance for a Few Feathers.—Now that Ziegfeld has glorified the American girl, he might do something about Gandhi.—*Lampoon.*

If and When.—Men will wear brown this winter, says a stylist.

They will if they did last winter.

—*Life.*

Rubber-clad Climate.—SOUTHERN CALIFORNIAN (home from a vacation trip out of the State)—"Ah-h-h! Doesn't the old bus ride nice, now that we've got the tires filled again with this wonderful Los Angeles air?"—*Evangelical Crusader.*

Line Was Busy.—TOM—"Was it a big wedding?"

TIM—"Yes. I got in line twice to kiss the bride and nobody noticed it."—*Pennsylvania Punch Bowl.*

Musical Treat.—"What did you hear at the Opera yesterday?"

"All sorts of things. Smith is going bankrupt, Mrs. Brown has dyed hair, the Whites are having a divorce."—*Passing Show.*

Skimping on Newlyweds.—At a wedding in Kansas the guests threw wheat at the married pair instead of rice. We understand the throwing of old shoes was omitted, due to the fact that they were occupied at the time by feet.—*Spokane Spokesman-Review.*

Gave Him the Works.—MAGISTRATE—"Witness says you neither slowed down nor tried to avoid the pedestrian."

MOTORIST—"I took all precautions. I blew my horn and curst him."—*Answers (London).*

Tip for Mr. Mellon.—The mystery surrounding the disappearance in London of an American citizen has now been cleared up.

It seems he was decoyed into the Bank of England and had his gold filling removed by the Chief Cashier.—*Dublin Opinion.*

Knows His Jane.—COMMANDER—"Now, suppose you are on your post one dark night. Suddenly a person appears from behind and wraps two strong arms around you so that you can't use your rifle. What will you call then?"

CADET—"Let go, Honey."—*Illinois Siren.*

You Can't Beat 'em.—SHE (with newspaper)—"It says here that the Eskimos use fish-hooks for money."

HE—"Gee! It must be tough on their wives getting fish-hooks out of hubby's pocket while he's sleeping."

SHE—"Oh, well, the nights are six months long up there, dear."—*Boston Transcript.*

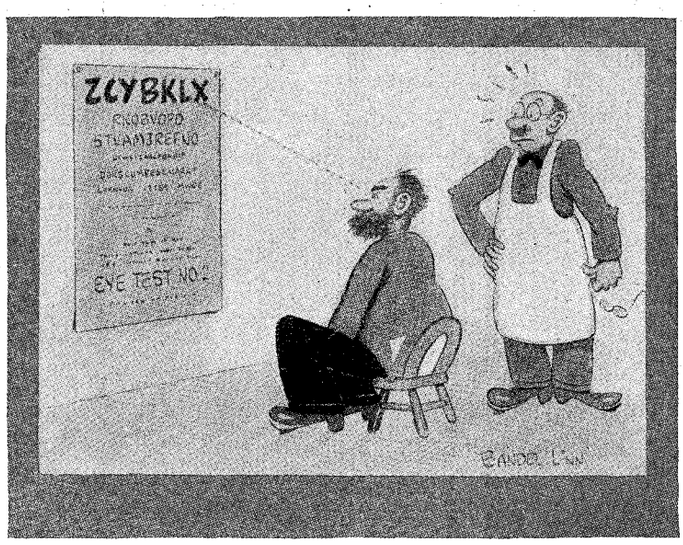
Clean Job.—TOURIST (looking at Venus de Milo)—"One thing those old Greeks had on us; when they talked disarmament, they disarmed."—*Cornell Widow.*

Advanced Grade.—"And has your baby learned to talk yet?"

"Oh my, yes. We're teaching him to keep quiet now."—*Cornwall Advertiser.*

Out of the Big Money.—Heard on the tennis-court:

"Poor fellow, he lost his amateur standing, and now he can't make a cent."—*Life.*



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"You've got my name spelled wrong!"

—"Life."

Yip! Yip!—A Missouri farmer tells the Lawrence County *Record* he is through trying to keep the wolf from the door because he and his wife were away from home a few days ago and the wolf got in the house and now has pups.—*Florida Times-Union.*

Silver Lining.—WIFE (at desk)—"I've been asked for a reference for our last maid. I've said she's lazy, unpunctual and impertinent. Now can I add anything in her favor?"

HUSBAND—"You might says that she's got a good appetite and sleeps well."—*Montreal Star.*

That Lid.—

Maidens tall and maidens teeny—
Each one wears a hat Eugenie.

Damsels dumb and damsels brainy—
They each sport a new Eugenie.

How I wish there weren't so many
Girls who wore and said "Eugenie."

—*J. C. in Life.*

Whoa, Jackie!—"A small boy, leading a donkey, passed by an army camp. A couple of soldiers wanted to have some fun with the lad.

"What are you holding on to your brother so tight for, sonny?" said one of them.

"So he won't join the army," the youngster replied, without blinking an eye.—*The Baptist.*

Slips That Pass in the Night

Deep Laid Plot.—Funeral arrangements for the annual picnic of Auxiliary 1 will be made Thursday.—*Rochester Democrat and Chronicle.*

Turning on the Juice.—Miss Brady is a member of the cast of Eugene O'Neill's "Mourning Becomes Electric."—*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.*

Sun Bathers Blinded.—The Naval Observatory said the comet, a ball of white-hot gas, speeding at 100 miles per second, probably was not visible to the naked.—*New York American.*

Quite Likely—
WHEN WET
TAKE DETOUR
—*Sign on a Minnesota State Highway.*

You'll Soon Own It.—
Electric Percolator Set
$9.95
50c Down—$50 Weekly
—*Schenectady (N. Y.) paper.*

Quite English, Y'know.—
Coaches Refuses to Say
Anything About
Chances of Their Tea
—*North Jersey Courier.*

Hope the Presents were O. K.—The bride was gowned in white lace. The bridesmaids' gowns were punk. The whole color scheme of the decorations was punk.—*New York paper, according to the West Virginia Mountaineer.*

Startling Frankness.—

BANKERS ADVISE HOOVER PROGRAM WILL BE SUCCESS

Seek to Free Bunk Assets Now Frozen
—*Bridgeport (Conn.) Times-Star.*

Something New on Widows.—Hereafter, presumably, the man who desires peace in the heart of a great city need only attach a black box to his widow and the noises of the street and air will be automatically stilled. One might as well be in a desert save for a soft, mechanical purr.—*Worcester (Mass.) Telegram.*

Viewing With Alarm.—There is loose in the world today three men who have the ear marks of three of the greatest war lords of all history, they are Kejura of Japan, Mussolini of Italy, and Lenni of Russia. They are playing the game of Napoleon, Kiser Bill, and Ceasar all at one time. Their game is arming themselves for the air, land and water and playing the game of diplomacy with a bunch of Sunday-school diplomants at Lacarno and Geneva.—*Editorial in a Red Cliff (Colo.) paper.*

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